

\*\*\*\*\*News from the League\*\*\*\*\*

**DEADLINE TO REGISTER FOR THE LEAGUE'S AGM MAY 11**

You don't want to miss out on the exciting roster of events that will take place at this year's Annual General Meeting. The AGM will be held in Edmonton from June 8 – 10. Panels include: Form Poetry: This panel will explore various forms of poetry and how form might actually free the creative process--content vs. context; The Poem Made Visible: This panel includes a screening of video poems, or excerpts of video/film poems by other LCP members. We are also hoping to include screenings of videopoems being produced by students of an Edmonton performing and visual arts school; Technology - Enabling Poetic Collaboration: The web (i.e. websites, blogs, MySpace, email, etc.) has allowed poets and artists to collaborate on some exciting projects. This panel would focus on how technology can enhance the collaborative capabilities of poets and artists working in other genres and; The Feminist Caucus: Women Poets in Canadian History featuring Catherine Owen, Alison Clarke and Karen Schindler. The Anne Szumigalski Lecture will feature Mark Abley. Following the lecture is a reception, dinner and the Awards Gala. For further details please see the online schedule and registration forms at: <http://www.poets.ca/linktext/agm.htm>

**NEWS FROM THE FEMINIST CAUCUS COMMITTEE**

By Anne Burke, Chair. As we know, times and places are subject to change, (see attached map), so let's do lunch! on Friday and head out to the panel for 1:30 p.m. in the EVERGREEN Room, on the second floor of Lister Centre; then the Open Reading & Business Planning Meeting on Saturday at 3:30 p.m. in the Prairie Room. (More topics and volunteers are needed for next year!) Panelists are: Catherine Owen/Anne Marriott; Alison Clarke on Dorothy Livesay, and Karen Schindler on the Arts and Letters Club. All the nominees for the Pat Lowther Award are awesome and we expect to launch the 25th Anniversary Anthology. For full report see: [www.poets.ca/linktext/newsletter](http://www.poets.ca/linktext/newsletter)

**DONATE A POETRY BOOK TO THE VICTORIA SCHOOL LIBRARY**

A library in Edmonton's Victoria School of Performing and Visual Arts was destroyed by fire April 9. Damage is estimated at \$2 million. Victoria School is Edmonton's Kindergarten – grade 12 Arts School, and alumni include: Arthur Hiller, Leslie Neilsen and League member, Diane Buchanan.

Victoria School of Performing and Visual Arts was very involved in the first Edmonton Poetry Festival held last September. On the "Vic Poetry Day", September 21, the school hosted a videoconference between former parliamentary poet laureate Pauline Michel, who visited the Edmonton school, and Mary Dalton, who was reading at a school in Newfoundland. Halifax poet laureate Lorri Neilsen-Glenn also read to students. In addition, Victoria School hosted League members who read their poetry to students in elementary, junior high, and high school classrooms. Local poets graciously donated books to the classroom in which they read—and the school's library.

The loss of this library to students is great. It housed one of the best novel collections in Edmonton high schools, a large collection of art books, as well as specialized resources to support Victoria School's International Baccalaureate program.

League members are invited to bring a book to the AGM in Edmonton to donate to the Victoria School Library. Let's help Victoria School rebuild its library and introduce students to poetry by poets from across Canada. Thanks in advance! For more information, log on to the Victoria School website: <http://www.victoria-school.ca/>

\*\*\*\*\* Poetry News \*\*\*\*\*

**THE GRIFFIN POETRY PRIZE ANNOUNCES THE 2007 CANADIAN AND INTERNATIONAL SHORTLIST**

Scott Griffin, founder of The Griffin Trust For Excellence In Poetry and David Young, trustee, today announced the Canadian and International shortlist for this year's prize. The C\$100,000 Griffin Poetry Prize is one of the most lucrative poetry prizes in the world – exemplifying the international spirit of the form. The prize is awarded annually for the two best books of poetry, including translations, published in English in the previous year.

Judges John Burnside, Charles Simic and Karen Solie read 483 books of poetry, including 18 translations, received from 15 countries around the globe. The seven finalists – three Canadian and four International – will be invited to read in Toronto at the MacMillan Theatre on Tuesday, June 5, 2007. The winners, who each receive C\$50,000, will be announced on Wednesday, June 6, 2007 at the seventh annual Griffin Poetry Prize Awards Evening. For more info: [www.griffinpoetryprize.com/](http://www.griffinpoetryprize.com/)

### THE POETS' REWARD

When we celebrate National Poetry Month each April, we're tipping our hats not only to the art form, but to the poets themselves, who perform the thankless task of writing what few read and fewer still understand. It takes a very particular kind of masochism to engage in this pursuit, which brings the practitioner neither glory nor income and is derided even, occasionally, by poets themselves. "Poetry is - with good reason - easy to make fun of," says Toronto-based poet Ken Babstock, one of the nominees for this year's Griffin Poetry Prize. "Poetry is often the last resort for a lot of losers," adds avant-garde poet Christian Bök, Canadian winner of the 2002 Griffin Prize. But things may be looking up. Babstock talks about his delight at hearing that "indie-band kids" are reading his work ("they like it because no one's got their paws on it," he says). Meanwhile Dave Silverberg, founder and host of Toronto Poetry Slam, which pits poets against each other in a public competition, feels "it's gaining some cachet here and there. One of my friends [Shane Koyczan] opened for Violent Femmes at Massey Hall." But, he says with a laugh, poetry's "not going to play at Air Canada Centre any time soon." For full The Globe and Mail article:

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/LAC.20070428.POETS28/TPStory/TPEntertainment/Ontario/>

### POETRY MAKES THINGS HAPPEN

Poets may not be, as Shelley wrote, "the unacknowledged legislators of the world." But neither is it quite true, as Auden wrote in his lovely In Memory of W. B. Yeats, that "Poetry makes nothing happen." Poetry by itself may not change the world; poets are powerless to prevent the massacres in Darfur, end child abuse or cure multiple sclerosis. But poetry can and does mightily affect individual consciences, individual perceptions, individual memories. Collectively, who knows what sort of butterfly effect that has? Martin Levin asked a number of Canadian poets for the poet, or work, or even lines that most stay with them. For full The Globe and Mail article:

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/LAC.20070407.BKLEVI07/TPStory/Entertainment>

\*\*\*\*\* Literary News \*\*\*\*\*

### BOOK LOVERS UNITE AT FRYE FEST

Created in 1999 to honour Northrop Frye, a famous literary icon who lived his formative years in Moncton, the Frye Literary Festival gathers writers from all over North America for activities for all age groups and all styles of writers. The Frye Fest is definitely the place to be in April. And the over 10,000 people who attended last year's event attests to this. "Every year during the last weekend in April," says chair Dawn Arnold, "we invite French and English authors from around the world to come to Moncton and basically take over the town." The festival, organizers explain, is a wide-ranging programme of workshops, dialogues, readings, debates, lectures and kitchen parties, held through the day and into evening in an equally vast array of venues, from schools, cafes, restaurants and bars, to theatres, shopping malls and libraries, throughout Metro Moncton. And the whole thing is bilingual. "Among the larger events of the festival," explains chairperson Dawn Arnold, "is an evening extravaganza on Thursday, April 26 which joins three or four authors with musicians. It's a big party sort of atmosphere, to get everyone into the festival. It's also a chance for everyone in Moncton to meet the authors."

For full article: <http://www.canadaeast.com/ce2/hereroot/article.php?articleID=1903>

### BC BOOK PRIZE WINNERS ANNOUNCED

The West Coast Book Prize Society is pleased to announce the winners of the 23rd Annual BC Book Prizes. They are as follows:

- Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize Sponsored by Friesens, Webcom and Transcontinental: Carol Windley, Home Schooling (Cormorant Books)
- Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize Sponsored by the BC Teachers' Federation: Don McKay, Strike / Slip (McClelland & Stewart)
- Hubert Evans Non-fiction Prize Sponsored by Abebooks: Heather Pringle, The Master Plan: Himmler's Scholars and the Holocaust (Viking Canada)
- Roderick Haig-Brown Regional Prize Sponsored by Sandhill Book Marketing: Katherine Gordon, Made to Measure: A History of Land Surveying in British Columbia (Sono Nis Press)
- Sheila A. Egoff Children's Literature Prize Sponsored by the BC Library Association: Sarah Ellis, Odd Man Out (Groundwood Books)

- Christie Harris Illustrated Children's Literature Prize. Sponsored by Kate Walker and Company, Michael Reynolds and Associates and Craig Siddall and Associates: Maggie de Vries and Renne Benoit, Tale of a Great White Fish: A Sturgeon Story (Greystone Books)
- BC Booksellers' Choice Award In Honour of Bill Duthie. Sponsored by BC Booksellers' Association and Duthie Books: David Suzuki and Greystone Books, David Suzuki: The Autobiography
- **LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S AWARD FOR LITERARY EXCELLENCE:** Patrick Lane is the recipient of this award, established in 2003 by the Honourable Iona Campagnolo, to recognize British Columbia writers who have contributed to the development of literary excellence in the province.

This year's gala, emceed by William Deverell and attended by the Honourable Lieutenant Governor Iona Campagnolo, took place at Government House in Victoria on April 28, 2007. The BC Book Prizes were established in 1985 to celebrate the achievements of British Columbia writers and publishers. The prizes are administered and awarded by members of a non-profit society who represent all facets of the publishing and writing community. The West Coast Book Prize Society congratulates all of the winners!

The 2007 BC Book Prizes On Tour has just wrapped up too and more than 2,900 people around the province have had the opportunity to meet and hear some of the finalists for the BC Book Prizes. This year, BC Book Prizes On Tour visited a record 15 communities with readings in schools as well as public venues like libraries and book stores. Check out photos of the authors on tour at our website.

### **THE BRAVE NEW WORDS: MANITOBA WRITING AND PUBLISHING AWARDS ANNOUNCED**

A Night Like No Other! At the Brave New Words: Manitoba Writing and Publishing Awards Gala, history was made! For the first time ever, poets were honoured with a prize of their own, the Lansdowne Prize for Poetry, alongside their fiction and non-fiction counterparts. The big story of the night proved to be Faith Johnston, whose memoir of Dorise Nielsen became the winningest title ever at the awards. A Great Restlessness: The Life and Politics of Dorise Nielsen by Faith Johnston walked away with four awards, totaling \$11,000, including the prestigious McNally Robinson Book of the Year Award. For press release see:

<http://www.mbwriter.mb.ca/mwapa/mwapa.html>

### **WRITERS! THERE'S STILL TIME! SAGE HILL WRITING EXPERIENCE DEADLINE EXTENDED**

The deadline for all summer programs at the Sage Hill Writing Experience has been extended to May 10 (midnight), including applications for any of the 13 scholarships. Please see website for further details. For more info: [sage.hill@sasktel.net](mailto:sage.hill@sasktel.net) or [www.sagehillwriting.ca](http://www.sagehillwriting.ca)

### **ATLANTIC BOOK AWARDS ANNOUNCED**

David Adams Richards, Wayne Johnston and Steve McOrmond were among the 25 poets, authors and illustrators nominated in the 10 categories of the [2007 Atlantic Book Awards](http://www.writers.ns.ca/bookfest07/) announced Wednesday. The winners will be announced at the Atlantic Book Awards ceremony at Pier 21 in Halifax May 11 after a week of Atlantic Book Festival events throughout the region. For press release: <http://www.writers.ns.ca/bookfest07/>

### **TORONTO WRITERS' CENTRE CELEBRATES ITS FIRST YEAR ANNIVERSARY**

May 1, 2007 marks one year since the Toronto Writers' Centre opened its doors in the heart of Toronto's Yorkville. And it's been a busy first year with writers of all genres flocking to the Centre on a daily basis. In addition, over 20 different public events were offered over the past year, from last May's reading with Vincent Lam (now Giller Prize winner for Bloodletting & Miraculous Cures), to a popular PEN Canada event featuring writers in exile, to stories from seasoned travel writers.

The Toronto Writers' Centre is also a source for professional development and learning for those interested in literature and books. The Centre offers Editor/Mentorship programs, Private Writing Coach services, E-Classes, and has hosted high school students for lively sessions on the writing life with member authors. As well, the Centre has offered workshops on getting published, novel development, publishing e-books and becoming a successful freelance writer.

To celebrate a year of writing, the Toronto Writers' Centre is offering an Anniversary Special. The first 25 new members to join will receive seven months membership for the price of six with no initiation fee. A sweet deal for the serious writer. For more info: [www.writerscentre.ca](http://www.writerscentre.ca).

### **GASPEREAU PRESS WINS TWO ALCUIN AWARDS**

Gaspereau Press is delighted to announce the recognition of its books in the Alcuin Society's 25th annual juried book-design competition. Robert Bringhurst's The Tree of Meaning won first prize in the category of non-fiction. This book was designed by the author Robert Bringhurst and Gaspereau Press co-owner Andrew Steeves. Tim Bowling's Fathom tied with Michel van Schendel's L'Oiseau, le vieux-port et la charpentier (published by

L'Hexagone and designed by Anne-Maude Th  berge) for third place in the poetry category. This book was designed by Andrew Steeves. Both books will be exhibited internationally at the Frankfurt and Leipzig Book Fairs, and in locations across Canada. The Tree of Meaning was typeset in Giovanni Di Faccio and Lui Karner's Rialto Piccolo and Fred Smeijers' Quadraat Sans, for the main text, with additional fonts used for the Greek, Cyrillic, Hebrew, Arabic and Chinese excerpts. The book was printed offset on wove paper, with a letterpress-printed cover. Fathom was typeset in Garamont, a type named for the 16th-century punchcutter Claude Garamond but based on letters cut by Jean Jannon a generation later. The digital version used in this book was made by Jim Rimmer of New Westminster, BC, based on Frederic Goudy's 1921 revival made for Lanston Monotype. Fathom was printed offset on laid paper, with a letterpress-printed cover. For more information about the awards and about the Alcuin Society, please visit [www.alcuinsociety.com](http://www.alcuinsociety.com) For more on Gaspereau Press info: [www.gaspereau.com](http://www.gaspereau.com)

### **THE CBA ANNOUNCES THE NOMINEES FOR CBA LIBRIS AWARDS**

The Canadian Booksellers Association (CBA) is pleased to announce the nominees for CBA Libris Awards 2007. Celebrating the Best in the Business, and voted on by members of the Canadian book industry, CBA Libris Award Winners will be announced during CBA's Libris Awards Presentation, June 10, 2007, at Metro Toronto Convention Centre during BookExpo Canada 2007.

<http://www.cbabook.org/awards/CBA.Libris.Awards.2007.Shortlist.pdf>

### **\*\*\*\*\* Opportunities \*\*\*\*\***

*Please note: The opportunities, contests or markets listed in this electronic newsletter are only an informational resource. We encourage all poets to thoroughly investigate all contests or markets before submitting their work.*

### **THE INSIDER'S GUIDE TO GETTING PUBLISHED**

A two-day workshop for authors who want to know how to get published and who want to understand the publishing process. July 23 – July 24, 2007, 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Learn:

- how to prepare covering letters and book proposals that get results
- how to target the editor or agent who will be receptive to your writing
- publishers' internal decision-making processes
- how to market your book
- about the outside influences that affect publishers' choices
- the pros & cons of literary agents and self-publishing
- how to build your author profile and increase your sales

"For many authors, the financial lives of their books are often a complete mystery... [and] they have unrealistic sales and marketing expectations." A recent Writers' Union of Canada/Quill & Quire survey revealed that writers have little understanding of, and high expectations from their publishers. Our workshop introduces you to the basics of the financial arrangements and the sales and marketing decisions of publishers, and provides you with the strategies for improving the odds of your book getting published. Workshop Leader, Cynthia Good, is the former President and Publisher of Penguin Canada and current Director of the Creative Book Publishing Program at the Humber College. Joining Cynthia will be Jennifer Murray, former Vice-President of Marketing, Penguin Books and Kids Can Press. The workshop runs from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Lakeshore Campus located on Lake Shore Blvd. West, at the foot of Kipling Avenue, in Etobicoke. Fee: \$329. For info: Cynthia Good at 416-675-6622 ext. 3462 or [cynthia.good@humber.ca](mailto:cynthia.good@humber.ca). To register: Hilary Higgins at 416-675-6622 ext. 3449 or [hilary.higgins@humber.ca](mailto:hilary.higgins@humber.ca).

### **THE BANFF CENTRE – LITERARY ARTS CALL FOR APPLICATIONS**

- Writing With Style • Fall 2007  
Edna Alford, Director  
Program Dates: September 17 to 22, 2007  
Application Deadline: May 15, 2007  
Faculty: Steven Heighton (Short Fiction), Candace Savage (Nature Writing), Trevor Herriot (Memoir), Audrey Thomas (Travel Writing). Writing With Style is an excellent opportunity for writers of all levels to edit and shape a work-in-progress under the guidance of an experienced editor. Writing With Style is the most accessible of The Banff Centre's writing programs.
- Wired Writing Studio 2007-08  
Fred Stenson, Director  
On-site residency: October 1 to 13, 2007  
Online residency: October 29, 2007 to March 29, 2008  
Application deadline: June 15, 2007  
Faculty: Barbara Klar, Don Domanski, Lynn Coady, Lisa Moore, Kathy Page. The Wired Writing Studio is a unique opportunity for poets and writers of fiction and other narrative prose to pursue their artistic

visions and develop their voices through one-on-one editorial assistance from experienced writers/editors, both on-site in Banff and online for five months following the residency. Financial assistance is available.

For more info and to apply: The Banff Centre, Office of the Registrar, 1-800-565-9989 or 1-403-762-6180, [arts\\_info@banffcentre.ca](mailto:arts_info@banffcentre.ca) or [www.banffcentre.ca](http://www.banffcentre.ca)

### **THE 10TH ANNUAL WRITING BY DEGREES CONFERENCE IS SEEKING CREATIVE AND ACADEMIC SUBMISSIONS DEMONSTRATING OR CONTEMPLATING THE CRAFT OF WRITING.**

Conference Dates: September 27-29, 2007. Submission Deadline: August 20, 2007. Keynote Speakers: Chimamanda Adichie and Vijay Seshadri. Guidelines: All applicants must be currently enrolled as graduate students in order to be eligible. Submissions may fall into one of the categories: Creative Submissions: Creative prose, fiction or creative non-fiction should be of a length to be read within a 20-minute period (roughly 10-12 pages); please submit the entire piece to be read. Poetry submissions should be 10 pages. Note: Authors of creative submissions accepted by Writing By Degrees will be invited to submit the works to a special Fall edition of the journal Harpur Palate, although acceptance for publication is not guaranteed. Academic Submissions: Please submit a 1-2pp abstract. Possible Academic Submission Topics: the craft and/or practice of writing; creative writing pedagogy; creative writing versus composition; the avant-garde in poetry or fiction. Hardcopy submissions may be sent to: Writing By Degrees, Department of English, Binghamton University, PO Box 6000, Binghamton, NY, 13902-6000. More info: [wbdegree@binghamton.edu](mailto:wbdegree@binghamton.edu) or [www.writingbydegrees.binghamton.edu](http://www.writingbydegrees.binghamton.edu)

### **THE ACORN-PLANTOS AWARD FOR PEOPLE'S POETRY**

In memory of Milton Acorn and Ted Plantos. Deadline: June 30, 2007. The Acorn-Plantos Award for People's Poetry is presented annually to a Canadian poet based on a book published in the previous calendar year (in the present case, 2006). The work should follow in the tradition of Acorn, Livesay, Purdy, Plantos, and others by being accessible to all people in its use of language and image. The award is open to any living poet who is a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant. The work may be entered by the poet or the publisher. The award itself honours the poet. The award consists of \$500 (Canadian) and a medallion. Entry fee: \$25 per title. Send entry fee plus five (5) copies of the book to the address below. Cheques payable to the Acorn-Plantos Award, Acorn-Plantos Award Committee, 36 Sunset Avenue, Hamilton, Ontario L8R 1V6. For more info: [jeffseff@allstream.net](mailto:jeffseff@allstream.net)

### **CANADA COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS IS PRESENTLY RECRUITING FOR A WRITER/EDITOR**

Canada Council for the Arts is presently recruiting for a Writer/Editor (English- or French-language), Public Affairs, Research and Communications Division. Please post this vacancy internally or forward this e-mail to candidates that may be interested in this position. Please visit our website at [www.canadacouncil.ca](http://www.canadacouncil.ca) to view the posting. Applications should be submitted to Rachelle Malone, Human Resources Coordinator, Human Resources, no later than April 20, 2007 at [competition@canadacouncil.ca](mailto:competition@canadacouncil.ca) quoting competition number 2464H. For more information or for a complete job profile, please contact Rachelle Malone at 613-566-4414 extension 4114 or send an e-mail to [competition@canadacouncil.ca](mailto:competition@canadacouncil.ca). All applications can also be sent by fax to 613-566-4323. The Employment Application Form must be completed and submitted in order to be considered for this position. We thank all applicants for their interest; however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted. The Canada Council for the Arts is committed to employment equity.

### **NEW LOCALLY PRODUCED LIT. E-ZINE - WOVEN LINES**

A new bi-monthly poetry/short story e-zine: Woven Lines is being planned in Peterborough. The issues will come by email in newsletter format. There will also be a web site to view selected submissions. Submission Guidelines: We only accept electronic submissions. Please submit text in Word format only. Please submit images or artwork in JPG, JPEG format only. Submit your work via e-mail to: [edinburgharts@yahoo.ca](mailto:edinburgharts@yahoo.ca). Deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month before (i.e for May 1st deadline is April 15th)

### **SEEKING POEMS BY NURSES**

Poetry print journal Rattle (US) is seeking submissions of poems written by nurses for their winter issue. Note: poems need not be written about nurses, but must be written by nurses. Also seeking essays of any length, relating to both poetry and medicine. Deadline: August 1, 2007. Payment: 2 copies. For more info: <http://www.rattle.com/submissions.htm>

### **LEAF PRESS SEEKS POETRY MANUSCRIPTS**

Leaf Press (Lantzville, BC) is now accepting full-length poetry manuscripts for two spaces on their Spring 2008 list. Especially appreciates the long poem form. Deadline: September 5, 2007. For more info: <http://www.leafpress.ca/guidelines.htm>

### **NORTHERN POETRY REVIEW SEEKS ALL THINGS POETIC**

Northern Poetry Review is a home for reviews of poetry books, interviews with poets, articles related to poetry, and selected poems, updated every other month. Writers are invited to write reviews, pitch ideas for articles and opinion pieces. Emphasis is on Canadian poetry, but other work is not excluded from the site. For more info: <http://northernpoetryreview.com/>

### **ROOM OF ONE'S OWN ANNUAL POETRY AND FICTION CONTEST**

Room of One's Own invites entries for their annual Poetry and Fiction Contest. Prizes for each category: first prize: \$500; second prize: \$250. Poetry: maximum 3 poems or 150 lines. Fiction: 4000 words max. Entry fee: \$27. Deadline: May 15, 2007. For more info: <http://www.roommagazine.com/news.html>

### **WTF MAGAZINE POETRY COMPETITION**

WTF Magazine invites worldwide entries to their first poetry competition. Submit 1-3 poems, 60 line max each. Entry fee: \$6 for up to 3 poems. Prizes: first \$100; second \$50; third \$25. Winners and up to 25 honourable mentions will be published in WTF Magazine's July/August 2007 Issue. Deadline: June 10, 2007. For more info: <http://wtfmag.ca/contests/poetrycontest/poetrycontest.html>

<b>***** Events and Readings *****</b>
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### **THE WHITEHORSE POETRY FESTIVAL**

The Whitehorse Poetry Festival will take place in Whitehorse, Yukon June 22-24 this summer. The festival will feature readings, workshops and panel discussions all on a theme of wilderness and North. Guest poets include: Sharon Thesen, Jan Zwicky, Barry McKinnon, Donna Kane and Erling Friis-Baastad. For more information, please visit our website at [www.whitehorsepoetry.com](http://www.whitehorsepoetry.com), email [info@whitehorsepoetry.com](mailto:info@whitehorsepoetry.com), or phone (867) 668-6744. Registration is required.

### **MAY 2 – THE COACH HOUSE SPRING LAUNCH!**

We know what you're thinking: It's April already, for Pete's sake! Where are the spring Coach House books? At last, an answer. Coach House Books has been pooling its resources, editing and designing diligently, and soon – very soon – will unleash its stunning spring selections on the reading public. We're coiled like a deadly cobra, preparing to swiftly strike on May 2. The entire list of Coach House spring authors combines forces for the all-night literary party that is the Coach House Spring Launch. Sean Dixon! Andrew Wedderburn! Nicole Brossard! Rachel Zolf! Amiel Gladstone! Together for one night only, at Revival (783 College Street) on Wednesday, May 2, 8:00 p.m. For info, call 416.979.2217 or e-mail [evan@chbooks.com](mailto:evan@chbooks.com)

### **COOKED AND EATEN MAY EVENT**

Monday, Monday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, VOL. 7, Issue 7, at the Gordon Best Theatre, 216 Hunter Street, W., 8:00pm. Featuring: George Elliot Clarke, Tim Conley, Katarina Fretwell, Hal Niedzviecki. A poem about Trudeau, avant-guard fiction and more.

### **SPAN-O PRESENTS THE OTTAWA SMALL PRESS BOOK FAIR**

span-o (the small press action network - ottawa) presents the ottawa small press book fair spring edition will be happening Saturday, June 16, 2007 in room 203 of the Jack Purcell Community Centre (on Elgin, at 320 Jack Purcell Lane). contact rob at [rob@track0.com](mailto:rob@track0.com) to sign up for a table, etc. General info: the ottawa small press book fair noon to 5pm (opens at 11am for exhibitors)

admission free to the public. \$20 for exhibitors (payable to rob mclennan, c/o 858 Somerset St W, main floor, Ottawa Ontario K1R 6R7). full tables only. for catalog, exhibitors should send (on paper, not email name of press, address, email, web address, contact person, type of publications, list of publications (with price), if submissions are being considered & any other pertinent info, including upcoming ottawa-area events (if any).

also, due to the increased demand for table space, exhibitors are asked to confirm far earlier than usual. i.e. -- before, say, the day of the fair. the fair usually contains exhibitors with poetry books, novels, cookbooks, posters, t-shirts, graphic novels, comic books, magazines, scraps of paper, gum-ball machines with poems, 2x4s with text, etc. happens twice a year, started in 1994 by rob mclennan & James Spyker. now run by rob mclennan thru span-o. questions, [rob@track0.com](mailto:rob@track0.com) or 613 239 0337 more info on span-o at the span-o link of [www.track0.com/rob\\_mclennan](http://www.track0.com/rob_mclennan)

### **DIAMOND CHERRY READING SERIES**

The Diamond Cherry Reading Series will feature Allan Briesmaster on May 16, 2007 at 8:00pm. The

Renaissance Café is located at 1938 Danforth Ave., Toronto, ON, (416) 422-1441. Also reading: Carla Hartsfield.

### **CHILDREN'S VOICES TOO! EIGHT NEW CHORAL WORKS BY CANADA'S RENOWNED CHORAL COMPOSERS WITH TEXTS BY TORONTO'S URBAN VOICES STUDENT POETS**

The imagination, imagery and emotion of eight Toronto students have become the texts of eight new choral compositions composed for the Oriana Women's Choir by Canada's most renowned choral composers. The Oriana Women's Choir, conducted by William Brown, is premiering these new works Saturday, May 12, 2007 at Grace Church on-the-Hill, Toronto, 8:00 pm. The texts for the new compositions come from a poetry anthology called *Urban Voices/L'echo de la ville* published by the Toronto District School Board in 2006. The student poetry project encourages children and young people to find new and innovative ways of expressing themselves. Poetry themes reflect nature as well as the joy and sorrow of personal life experiences. At the concert, the students will be introduced and will recite their poems prior to hearing their texts sung by the choir and meeting some of the composers. Each poet will receive a signed score of the composition featuring his/her text. The program will also include the Nursery Rhyme Cantata by Nick Page and *Alice in Wonderland* by Irving Fine of the USA, as well as three works premiered in 2004 by Oriana also reflecting student poetry set to music by Stephen Chatman [Stars, Blue and Ice], Imant Raminsh [Deux Chansons] and Ruth Watson Henderson [Landscape and Night].

### **THE WRITERS' TRUST OF CANADA'S WRITERS' WORKSHOP PROGRAM BC SPRING/SUMMER SESSIONS 2007**

Pearl Luke- "Scene & Structure: A Crash Course for Fiction Writers" at the Salt Spring Island Public Library on Thursday, May 31, 2007 from 1pm - 3pm. Pearl Luke is the author of two critically acclaimed novels: *Madame Zee* (2006) and *Burning Ground* (2000), both published by HarperCollins Canada. *Burning Ground* was a *Globe and Mail* notable book of the year. It won the Commonwealth Prize for Best First Novel in the Canada/Caribbean region and was short-listed for the Chapter/Robertson Davies Prize, the Georges Bugnet award, and the Canadian Booksellers' Libris award. In 2006, *Madame Zee* was a book club pick for *Chatelaine* and *Flare* magazines. Pearl Luke mentors writers online for UBC's *Booming Ground* program and privately from her website. She was writer-in-residence for the city of Taipei, Taiwan, and currently teaches writing for DeVry University Online. She is at work on her third novel. Visit her website at [www.pearlluke.com](http://www.pearlluke.com).

\*interested participants must register no later than May 19, 2007 for this session.

Robert Hilles- "Writing Poetry: Beginning, Middle & End" at the Vancouver Island Regional Library (Nanaimo Harbourfront Branch) on Saturday, June 9, 2007 from 1pm - 3pm. Robert Hilles won the Governor General's Award for Poetry for *Cantos From A Small Room*. He has published thirteen books of poetry and five books of prose. His other books include: *Finding The Lights On*, *Near Morning*, *Nothing Vanishes*, *Kissing The Smoke*, *Breathing Distance*, *Somewhere Between Obstacles and Pleasure*, *Higher Ground*, and *Calling the Wild*. *Wrapped Within Again*, *New and Selected Poems* won the Stephan G. Stephansson Award for best book of poetry. His second novel, *A Gradual Ruin*, was published by Doubleday Canada in 2004 and is now available in paperback. His books have also been shortlisted for The Milton Acorn People's Poetry Prize, The W.O. Mitchell/City of Calgary Prize, The Stephan Stephansson Award, and The Howard O'Hagan Award. His latest book of poetry, *Slow Ascent*, was published in the fall 2006. \*interested participants must register no later than June 1, 2007 for this session.

Joanne Arnott- "Writing in the Community" at the Richmond Public Library (Brighthouse Branch) on Tuesday, June 12, 2007 from 7pm - 9pm. Joanne Arnott is a Metis/mixed blood writer, born in Winnipeg. She has since lived a cumulative thirty years in the Lower Mainland of BC, as well as in other communities in Manitoba and Ontario. Mother to six children ranging in age from three to twenty years, Joanne has been a literary performer and publishing poet since the late-1980's. She worked for many years as an Unlearning Racism facilitator, and continues to incorporate social justice perspectives and peer counselling approaches in her work. *Wiles of Girlhood* won the League of Canadian Poets' Gerald Lampert Award (1992) for best first book of poetry. She has since published five additional books, including *My Grass Cradle*, *Ma MacDonald*, *Breasting the Waves: On Writing & Healing* and *Steepy Mountain: love poetry*. Her most recent work, *Mother Time: Poems New & Selected*, is her sixth book and will be published by Ronsdale Press in 2007. \*interested participants must register no later than June 1, 2007 for this session.

The Great Blue Heron Writing Workshop will take place at St Francis Xavier University, in the coastal community of Antigonish, NS, from July 3-7, 2007. This is a reasonably-priced, four-day workshop with group meetings in the morning, one-to-one sessions in the afternoons, and readings in the evenings. Sheldon Currie will teach Fiction & Playwriting; Charles Gaines will teach Screenwriting; Jeanette Lynes will teach Poetry; Alistair MacLeod will teach Fiction and Lisa Moore will also teach Fiction. For more information contact

[gbheron@stfx.ca](mailto:gbheron@stfx.ca) or phone 902.867.4533. See [www.stfx.ca/workshops/gbheron](http://www.stfx.ca/workshops/gbheron) for details and registration forms.

### **THE QUEBEC WRITERS' FEDERATION AND THE ELEANOR LONDON PUBLIC LIBRARY PRESENT WRITERS OUT LOUD!**

A reading and conversation with Sherry Simon, author of *Translating Montreal: Episodes in the Life of a Divided City*, winner of the 2006 Mavis Gallant Prize for Non-Fiction. With the perspective of a walker moving through a fluid landscape of neighbourhoods and eras, Sherry Simon experiences Montreal as a voyage across languages. She traces an evocative history of literary passages across familiar sites - the mythical boulevard Saint-Laurent, Mile End, the Jacques-Cartier Bridge, Mont Royal - as she follows adventurous cultural translators such as Malcom Reid, F. R. Scott, A. M. Klein, and Pierre Anctil and contemporary writer-translators such as Gail Scott, Erin Moure, Jacques Brault, Michel Garneau Nicole Brossard and Emile Ollivier. The evening will be hosted by novelist and short story writer Ami Sands Brodoff. The event takes place on Thursday May 3rd, 7:30 p.m., at the Eleanor London Public Library, 5851 Cavendish Blvd., Côte-St.-Luc. Tickets are \$3.00 - call 514-485-6900 for information or to reserve. For more info: [admin@qwf.org](mailto:admin@qwf.org), [www.qwf.org](http://www.qwf.org), or <http://quebecbooks.qwf.org>

### **BRICK BOOKS AUTHORS AND OTHER AUTHORS READ FROM COAST TO COAST**

Brick Books authors and other authors read in Vancouver, interior British Columbia (Nelson, Kaslo and Nakusp), Red Deer, Saskatoon, Toronto, St. Catharines, Kingston, Ottawa, Quebec City and St. John's, and in May and June 2007.

- Toronto - Tuesday, May 1 at 8 p.m. Reading with Agnes Walsh, Brian Henderson and D.S. (Don) Martin at the Art Bar Poetry Series at the Victory Café, 581 Markham Street, Bathurst & Bloor (1 block West of Bathurst, 1 block South of Bloor). For more information, check their website at [www.artbar.org](http://www.artbar.org)
- Kingston, Ontario - Thursday, May 3 at 7 p.m. Reading with Agnes Walsh and Carolyn Smart at Novel Idea, 259 Princess Street. For more information, call 613-546-9799.
- St. John's, Newfoundland - Friday, May 25 from 1 to 2 p.m. Signing session with Agnes Walsh and Mary Dalton at the book fair at the Canadian Library Association conference which takes place from May 23 to May 26.
- Vancouver - Thursday, May 3 at 7 p.m. Readings by Catherine Greenwood and Steve Noyes at the UBC Bookstore at Robson Square, 800 Robson Street (Between Hornby & Howe).
- Red Deer - Thursday, June 14 - time and venue to be announced. Kimmy Beach launches her fourth collection, in *Cars* (Turnstone Press), with special guest Steve Noyes (*Ghost Country*, Brick Books, 2006).
- Nakusp, BC- Readings by Diana Hartog in Nelson, Kaslo and Nakusp, BC. Nelson Municipal Library, 602 Stanley Street. May 5 at 7:30 p.m. Kaslo and District Library, 413 Fourth Street. May 10 at 6:30 p.m. Nakusp Public Library, 92-6th Ave. NW. June 29 at 7:30 p.m.
- St. Catharines, Ontario - Tuesday, May 8 at 7:30 p.m. Reading with Adam Dickinson and Erin Knight, Jordan Scott and Tanis Rideout at the Merchant Ale House, 98 St. Paul Street. For more information, visit <http://www.geocities.com/greyborders/readingseries.html>
- Ottawa - Tuesday, May 8 at 7:30 p.m. Reading by David O'Meara. Tree Reading Series, Royal Oak II Pub, 161 Laurier Avenue East (in the downstaris event room, separate from the main pub).
- Quebec City - Friday, May 18 from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Reading by Susan Elmslie as part of the inaugural Quebec City Writers' Series in the BibliothPque of the Morrin Centre, 44 chaussée des Écossais, Quebec. Admission is \$4 (members and students), \$6 (non-members). Telephone 418-694-9147. For more information, visit <http://www.morrin.org/pages/events.php?id=5> or contact [info@morrin.org](mailto:info@morrin.org)
- Ottawa - Tuesday, June 12 at 7:30 p.m. Reading by Susan Elmslie with Barry Dempster plus a panel discussion on writing inspired by the lives of real people. Tree Reading Series, Royal Oak II Pub, 161 Laurier Avenue East (in the downstaris event room, separate from the main pub).

### **KAFFEEHAUS KONDITOR IN TORONTO**

Andréa Jarmai will be reading at Poetic Justice hosted by Nik Beat at Kaffeehaus Konditor in Toronto, on Thursday 3rd May 2007 at 8:00pm. Also featuring Gaye Boston and there is an open mike. Kaffeehaus Konditor is an intimate venue with a fine selection of European pastries, desserts, coffees and teas, and they're easy to get to by TTC [1856 Queen Street East, one block east of Woodbine] 416.693.7997.

### **TRUDEAU: LONG MARCH, SHINING PATH BY GEORGE ELLIOTT CLARKE**

- George Elliott Clarke will be reading from his latest dramatic poem, *Trudeau: Long March, Shining Path* at the following venues:

- Sunday 6 May 2007 as part of the LitLive Reading Series, 7:30 pm – King Paisley Pub, 1019 King Street West, Hamilton .
- Monday 7 May 2007 as part of the Cooked & Eaten Reading Series, 8:00 pm – Gordon Best Theatre, 216 Hunter Street West, Peterborough
- Monday 16 May 2007 as part of the Draft Reading Series, 7:30 pm – Artists Play Studio Theatre, 276 Carlaw Avenue, Toronto

For more information or to arrange an interview with the author, contact: Beth Crosby, Gaspereau Press (902) 678-6002 | [booksales@gaspereau.com](mailto:booksales@gaspereau.com) or [www.gaspereau.com](http://www.gaspereau.com)

\*\*\*\*\* **Members News** \*\*\*\*\*

**LAURIE BLOCK**

Laurie Block has been shortlisted for two prizes at the Manitoba Writing and Publishing Awards annual do. He was shortlisted for the McNally Robinson book of the year and won the inaugural Landsdowne Poetry Prize. The winning book is Time Out Of Mind (Oolichan Books, 2006). Congratulations Laurie!

**SONJA DUNN**

Sonja Dunn celebrated National Poetry Month on Sunday, April 1st, with a reading of her poems and stories at a Literary Reading in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, which was held in the Bugambilia Café Courtyard. For Young Poets' Week, she presented her work to children at St. Piux X School in London, Ontario, MacLeod Public School in Sudbury, Ontario, and at Northern Preparatory Public School in Toronto.

**HEATHER HALEY**

Congratulations to Heather Haley, whose videopoem, Purple Lipstick was recently selected for the Vibgyor Short and Documentary Film Festival in Kerala, India, FemFest in Zagreb, Croatia, Pause & Play International Film Festival in the United Arab Emirates and the European Media Arts Festival in Osnabrück, Germany, out of 2000 entries. Shot on Bowen Island, it features actors Bazil Graham, Ripley Ferguson, Cairo Ferguson and acclaimed Vancouver performance poet, Alexandra Oliver-Basekic. View the videopoem online at <http://www.heatherhaley.com>

**LAURENCE HUTCHMAN**

Laurence Hutchman recently published Selected Poems with Guernica. In April he received the Alden Nowlan Award for Excellence in English-language Literary Arts.

**ELIZABETH RHETT WOODS**

A new book 1970, will be published by Ekstasis Editions in the fall of 2007. The poems follow the course of one year—the end of one decade, or the beginning of another—twelve months of tempestuous change, confusion, and challenge, through which the poet makes her questioning way to a new level of acceptance. An excerpt can be read on her website at [www.elizabethrhettwoods.ca](http://www.elizabethrhettwoods.ca)

**ROBERT SWARD**

Now employing high speed internet access to serve as contributing editor for Blue's Cruzio Cafe and other online literary magazines. Those of us editing and publishing online recognize that there are currently 1.2 billion internet users. The word "publishing" has taken on a new meaning. "The Collected Poems, 1957-2004" (Black Moss Press) is going into its second printing and, while continuing to publish in the traditional way, I am also interested in working with LCP members committed to the online literary community and creating and distributing broadcast quality poetry videos to reach audience(s) for poetry through the Internet and the use of DVDs, iPods, video iPods and cellphone videos. For more: 4 New Flash Videos <http://members.cruzio.com/~cafe>; Now showing! 1 minute movie Uncle Dog: <http://members.cruzio.com/~cafe/greenroom.html>; NEW "God is in the Cracks" - electronic chapbook, mp3 sound, graphics: <http://jjwebb.ihwy.com/rosycrossfather/index.html>.

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