

ink winter 2006

the newsletter of the vancouver international writers & readers festival

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Vancouver Writes on February 23

Get ready for an engaging, interactive evening of wordplay that will bring together aspiring and established writers to produce instant literature. Join host **Billeh Nickerson**, **Caroline Adderson**, **Elizabeth Bachinsky**, **Kevin Chong**, **Steven Galloway**, **Zsuzsi Gartner**, **Genni Gunn**, **C.C. Humphreys**, **Nancy Lee**, **Billie Livingston**, **Miranda Pearson**, **Bill Richardson**, **Timothy Taylor** and many more of Vancouver's finest on February 23 for the first edition of *Vancouver Writes*, a part of Granville Island's Winterruption Festival.

Here's how it works: teams of eight with one guest writer as coach and editor will collaborate to come up with a piece of prizewinning fiction or poetry. Over the course of the evening there will be three twenty minutes contests. Teams will be given a phrase (eg. "They couldn't believe their eyes") to incorporate in their piece. For added spice, the contests will alternate between poetry and prose and guest writers will switch teams, giving participants the opportunity to work with three writers.

The *Vancouver Writes* judges will choose a winning team for each contest, and after the third session a grand winner will be announced. Then the real fun will begin—live music, drinks, and a chance for the contestants and published writers to mingle and talk. Don't miss it!

Vancouver Writes

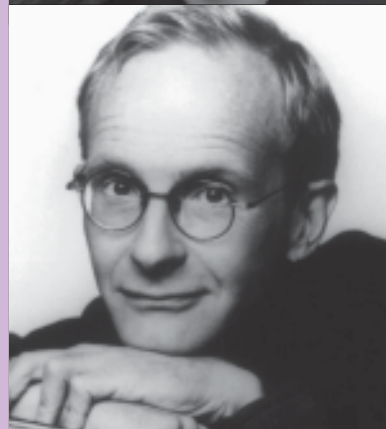
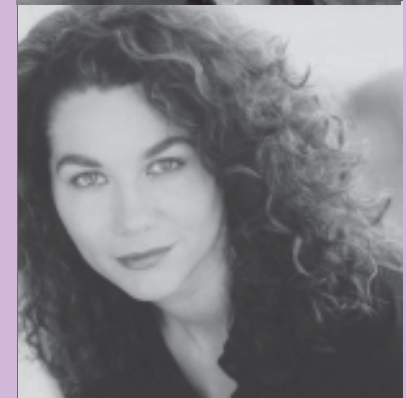
February 23 @ 7:30 PM
Performance Works
Tickets: \$20/18 students & seniors
Tickets are limited
Call 604-681-6330 or log onto
www.writersfest.bc.ca

Winterruption 2007

A showcase of food, arts, & culture
February 23–25, 2007
on Granville Island
www.winterruption.com



www.writersfest.bc.ca



Bill Richardson, Elizabeth Bachinsky (photo: Dave Aharonian)

Billie Livingston (photo: Rob Daly), Caroline Adderson (photo: Bruce Sweeney), Timothy Taylor, Nancy Lee

thank you to our 2006 Vancouver International Writers & Readers Festival Supporters

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thank you to our amazing volunteers!

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Aline de Rubens
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Kate Devine
Lalo Espejo

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Etherington
Joan Fogarty
Jenna Galley
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Anna Knowlson
Elaine Koochin
Danelle Laidlaw
Melanie Last
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Maureen Lawrence
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Linda Levar
Linda Light

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Lesley Llewellyn
Millie Lou
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Jamie Macdonald
Rob Macgrory
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George McWhirter
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Wendy Mills
Sue-Ann Mitchell
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Denise Mok
Peg Monro
Alana Montgomerie
John Montgomerie
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Alicia Wilson
Laura Woodward
Marian Yaremy
Nicole Young
Phoebe Yu

Our sincere apologies to anyone who we may have inadvertently left off this list.



Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie at the 2006 Vancouver International Writers Festival (photo: Chris Cameron)

VANCOUVER
INTERNATIONAL
WRITERS
& Readers
FESTIVAL

The Vancouver International Writers Festival strives to encourage an appreciation of the written word and to promote literacy by providing a forum where readers and writers can meet. We produce special events and an annual Festival featuring events with Canadian and international writers.

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Alma Lee Legacy Fund

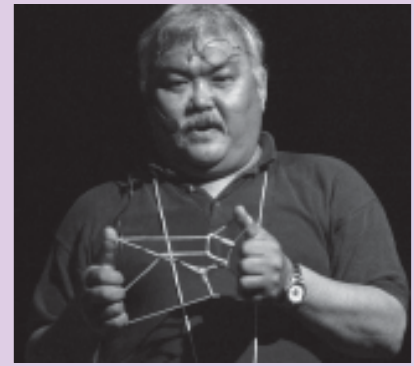
The Vancouver International Writers Festival's endowment campaign is underway. Our goal is to reach \$350,000 by October 2007, the Festival's 20th anniversary. To date we have received over **\$200,700** in gifts from members and supporters. This amount will be matched by government programs. You can watch the fund's progress and learn more about the Alma Lee Legacy Fund on our website: www.writersfest.bc.ca or by calling 604 681 6330 ext 104. Thank you to all of the generous donors who have contributed to the Alma Lee Legacy Fund to date. For a list of donors to the fund please visit our website.



In October Inuit author and storyteller **Michael Kusugak** was Writer-in-Residence at Port Hardy Secondary School on the northern tip of Vancouver Island, mentoring students and giving readings and storytelling in local communities. Students spent an hour a day for a week in writing workshops with Michael. Participant Meagan Dyer said "it was a very valuable experience—he shared great advice and stories."

The Writer in Residence program is part of the Vancouver International Writers Festival's Spreading the Word program, and is generously supported by BC Transmission Corporation and the Michael R. Shaw Outreach fund.

writer in residence



Michael Kusugak (photo: Chris Cameron)

spreading the word 3 dvd project

The Vancouver International Writers Festival and CBC Television present **Spreading the Word 3**, a DVD for BC schools featuring authors **Stephan Cloutier**, **Maggie de Vries** and **Dennis Foon**, taped live at the 2006 Vancouver International Writers Festival. The Spreading the Word 3 DVD will be distributed free of charge to schools and libraries throughout BC. For more information check our website: www.writersfest.bc.ca.

The Vancouver International Writers Festival is committed to protecting the privacy of our members and patrons. We will not trade or sell your contact information to other businesses or organizations.

Thank you to our Gala sponsors and donors. The Gala supports Spreading the Word, the Festival's education program for BC schools.

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Yelp

(with apologies to Allen Ginsberg)

I saw the best literary festivals of my generation destroyed by deficits, starving hysterical nakeddragging themselves through the interlocking brick streets of **Granville Island** at dawn looking for a budget fix and digging up four magic glittering letters to spell their salvation:

C M H and another **C**

who made space on an island paved with logos logos *logos*

THE WORD

who crossed their literate halflotus legs and flew on **East India Carpets**

through a **Paper Sky Express** and landed in **Hangar 18**

where the walls were inkmad mosaics of swans fish eagles eating books

feathered pages growing out of their backs reading logos logos *logos*

words pressed printed folded into the dreamdrenched pages of **Duthie**

Books Raincoast Books Penguin Books Kidsbooks

a virtual **Book Warehouse** where everything was so unreal it was **Canreal**

Management Corporation

where discord became **Canaccord Capital**

where angelheaded hipsters **Telus** that every **Random House of Canada**

listening to **CBC Radio** or **Radio-Canada** or blearyeyed watching **CBC**

Television or pageturning the **Vancouver Sun** is having an **Urban Impact,**

Recycling through **Cascades of Paper, Weyerhaeuser** paper

reading *logos logos logos*

who collected heartbeating stained rejection slips for their first teahead

joyride blinking neon streamofconsciousness novel from **Douglas &**

McIntyre, HarperCollins Canada, Simon & Schuster Canada, Thomas

Allen & Son, Kate Walker and Company

who stayed up all night drinking **Starbucks Coffee** trying to define their

Canadian Heritage, and pitching incestuous necrophiliac chilly northern

screenplays to **Bolder Investment Partners** for their **Crossline Films**

who gave up on fiction on poetry on stardust on logos logos *logos* and sent

radiant cool resumes to **Davis & Company, John Steeves Law Corpora-**

tion, Schloss Enterprises, Todd Merchandising Management, D.S.

Management, and the Government of Canada

who didn't burn their money in wastebaskets, but instead made sound invest-

ments with **HSBC Bank Canada, Scotia Private Client Group,**

RBC Dominion Securities

who snuck their beer from **Granville Island Brewing** into the **Granville**

Island Hotel and made transatlantic transpacific intercontinental **Rogers**

Wireless phone calls to slippered unshaven bathrobed bureaucrats from the

Australia Council for the Arts, Creative New Zealand, the British

Council, the New Zealand Book Council, the British Consul,



(over)

the **German Consulate General** and the **French Consul**, who all considered hanging up but instead

hung in

who got drunk in bars in the **City of Vancouver** having passionate ginsoaked arguments about **Gaming and Policy Enforcement** and making lewd comments to the **Women in Print** who they could see were beautiful through enchanted bright blazing letters **QLT**

who sat in lonely October alleys and fingertipdrummed the infectious rhythm of the rain: **bipidip, bipidip, bipidip**

who waved from highways where their cars broke down, waiting for **BC Transmission Corporation** or **Trend Diesel Limited** or anyone who could tow them back to logos logos *logos*

who dreamed of an ocean where an **Arts Pod** swam by leaping and diving and making endless giddy sonar chants of **Arts Now! Arts Now! Arts Now!** who watched wide-eyed staring as the art bloomed everywhere: the **BC Arts Council**, the **Canada Council for the Arts**, **Arts Presentation Canada**, the **Canadian Arts and Heritage Sustainability Program**, and the **BC Arts Renaissance Fund**

who angelskydropped to incarnate elliptical earth digging foundation after foundation: **Alan & Margaret Eyre Foundation** **CanWest Global Foundation** **Chris Spencer Foundation** **F.K. Morrow Foundation** **The Hamber Foundation** **The Rix Family Foundation** firm foundations on which to plant seeds with the help of **Bellis Garden Design** and maybe **Raise-a-Reader** or raise the dead at a wake, a dancing singing festivalproducing

Hal Wake

clutching a tearstained beaming photo of **Alma Lee** and with the absolute heart of the poem of life shining out of his eyes and good to read another twenty years

Kathleen Oliver
October 10, 2006



photos: Chris Cameron, Lalo Espejo