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**WRITERS
FEST**



October 16 – 22, 2023

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LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Vancouver Writers Fest carries out its work on the *ancestral and unceded lands* of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətat (Tsleil-Waututh) First Nations.

Welcome to the
2023 Festival!



There were murmurs from some during the darkest days of the pandemic that festivals would have a difficult time returning as the cornerstones of civic culture they once were. We're thrilled to say that the Vancouver Writers Fest has weathered that storm and come out the other side with a buoyant and celebratory Festival that will host over 125 authors in 85+ events! Together with some exceptional Special Events, this fall season will be one for those who can't get enough of new books, ideas, and brilliant dialogue (and dancing!)

We're grateful to the publishers from across Canada, and the world, who made the visits of so many authors possible. This year, we had a difficult time choosing from the hundreds of books and authors pitched, but the result was a Festival that brings some of the very best writers together for one beautiful week, and a few very Special Events. We will feature authors such as Zadie Smith, Naomi Klein, Cherie Dimaline, Michael Crummy, Silvia Moreno-Garcia, Patrick De Witt, John Vaillant,

CONTENTS

<u>Introductions</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>Sponsors & Donors</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>Festival Information</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>Board & Staff</u>	<u>11</u>
<u>Become a Member</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>2023 Festival Events</u>	<u>12</u>
<u>Connect with VWF Year-Round</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>2023 Festival Participants</u>	<u>57</u>
<u>Youth Education Programming</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>Thanks to Our Donors</u>	<u>77</u>

Rebecca Solnit, Kent Monkman, and many more. Our authors will appear in solo events, as well as in thoughtfully curated panel conversations, featuring both emerging and established writers.

This year we are delighted to welcome CBC Commotion host and bestselling author, **Elamin Abdelmahmoud**, as our Guest Curator; a role that he embraced with the same energy and charisma that he brings to his show. Elamin has a way of bridging the divide between popular culture, politics, and current events in a way that makes no topic off limits or inaccessible to his listeners. We had a taste of his talent when he visited us with his book, *Son of Elsewhere*, last fall. This year, he joins us with five curated events featuring topics ranging from Blackness as a portal, and witchy novels, to the precariousness of our modern state, and tangling with cultural inheritance.

Also, this year, we're honoured to once again welcome our Spoken Word Curator, **Jillian Christmas**, whose Word! events for youth have been perennial best-sellers. She's collected a dazzling array of poets and performers to entertain and inspire our YA audiences. We're also thrilled to be welcoming a new Musical Director, **Benjamin Millman**, to lead our signature Literary Cabaret event alongside his band, **Benjamin Millman and the Oxymorons!**

We read to immerse ourselves in the lives of others and to learn from those whose life experiences differ from ours. We gather to feel a sense of community and strength among like-minded individuals. Join us for the Vancouver Writers Fest: where reading, gathering and listening gives us hope for an enlightened future.

Leslie Hurtig,
Artistic Director

From the
VWF Team



These past few years we've been living in the tension between longing for things as they were and the desire to embrace an utterly new idea of "normal." Change has become less about things falling apart and more a catalyst for reimagining ourselves, our community, and our priorities. In that spirit, this welcome letter is from the whole staff, sharing what we love and are looking forward to—both new and familiar:

We're grateful to be working with our Accessibility Round Table, now in its second year, journeying alongside those with lived expertise to expand our accessibility investments in ways highly visible and behind the scenes. We also want to shout out our incredible volunteers, both returning and new! Volunteers are great fun, do tremendous work, and ensure our Festival runs smoothly.

From the
Board of Directors

The need for humanity to connect with each other—and with books and ideas—has never been stronger. The Vancouver Writers Fest strives to provide a broad range of ways for people to find those connections, not only during Festival Week but also throughout the year.

With the increasing number of books being banned from schools and libraries, many students are losing the opportunity to see themselves and their experiences reflected in the stories around them. This makes the VWF programs for K-12 students even more vital: **My Roots**, a writing workshop for immigrant youth, **Writers in the Classroom**, connecting students with authors in-person and, during Festival Week, **youth events**, which are available for free to classrooms through live and on-demand viewing. These programs are just a part of VWF's ongoing commitment to justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion.

We're also excited about the return of the Digital Festival this December! Recording dozens of events and getting them online takes many hands, but it's effort well worth it to ensure these remarkable conversations reach a wider audience in a more accessible way. (Not to mention some exchanges are so good they demand to be seen again and again!)

Our online accessibility isn't limited to the Digital Festival, either—we'll continue to livestream all youth events free of charge, and enhance subsidies for public school classes, making sure kids can get to the Festival, supported by a generous bequest of Wendi Mackay. (Did we mention how much we're looking forward to this year's youth events? There are some amazingly talented illustrators coming this October!)

Every year, we look forward to the moment the lights dim, and the audience sits transfixed by authors who bring their whole selves to the conversations on stage. Creating spaces to share collectively in these exchanges of ideas, inspiration, and understanding feels like making magic happen.

In short, October is for cozy drinks, fall foliage, and Granville Island draped in Festival banners. Come celebrate the joy of books, stories, and camaraderie with us!

—April, Chelsea, Joyce, Kaile, Leena, Matt, and Sarah


As you pore through the program for this year's Festival, we hope you find multiple opportunities to explore new books and ideas, to absorb words and stories, to gain new perspectives and insights, and to interact with writers and creators.

On behalf of the Board, we want to recognize the incredible work of the entire VWF team, who continually find ways to deliver programs which are inspiring, entertaining, and thought-provoking, and who work to create spaces that are welcoming, accountable, and reflective. We also want to recognize each of you—our volunteers, members, festival-goers, as well as our government, individual, and corporate sponsors. None of this would be possible without your contributions, and we truly thank each and every one of you.

—VWF Board of Directors

Guest Curator,
Elamin Abdelmahmoud



 GUEST CURATOR

Look for this icon on Elamin's curated events.

Hello friend,

I don't know about you, but my last year has largely been defined by tentativeness and uncertainty. Perhaps the same is true for you. I am deeply honoured to be this year's Guest Curator at the Vancouver Writers Fest, and I'm selfishly using this moment to explore some of these themes.

In that spirit, I'm excited to meet you and also meet the moment. I have curated a slate of 5 events that reflect some of the most urgent conversations right now—conversations many of us are having privately, brought to Festival stages so we can live in these questions together.

For instance, in a time of deepening inequality and growing political division, we've invited astute observers of this precariousness to talk about this moment of decline.

Sometimes, it's more clarifying to consider the crises of our time when they're ensconced in the context of magic and metaphor. With the help of authors like **Zalika Reid-Benta** and **Cherie Dimaline**, we'll dive into the elucidating power of what magic gives us.

We will reflect on the meaning of using Blackness as a lens and a springboard to analyze the world, with writers like **Christina Sharpe**, the author of the breathtaking *Ordinary Notes*, and we'll sit with big ideas of tangling with cultural inheritance.

And because I'm insistent that we never lose sight of infusing joy in what brings us together, with the help of NPR's **Ayesha Harris** and **Jen Sookfong Lee**, we'll talk about how pop culture can serve as a connector between us.

I'm thrilled to be sharing this space with you, and I can't wait to see you at the festival! Thank you for being here—for your presence, for bringing your whole self to this festival.

EVENTS: [06 | PAGE 14](#) [16 | PAGE 19](#) [31 | PAGE 27](#) [33 | PAGE 28](#) [50 | PAGE 37](#)



Festival Information

Festival Tickets Info

Always check the website! Please remember to check our website, as the information below is abbreviated, and event details may change.
writersfest.bc.ca/box-office

Ticket Sale Dates

Member Tickets: Monday, September 11 at 10am
School Groups: Wednesday, September 13 at 8am
General Tickets: Monday, September 18 at 10am

How to Buy

Online: writersfest.bc.ca (Please note: Online sales close one hour before each event.)
At the event: Visit the event venue starting 45 mins prior to the performance.
Need help? If you need help completing your ticket order online, call (844) 307-7469 for Showpass customer service. Please direct all other questions to boxoffice@writersfest.bc.ca.

Pricing

Ticket prices are listed under each event. Prices include GST and service fees. Discounts for regular events are offered for members or seniors (10%), and youth under 30 (50%).

Youth Events



YOUTH

For full information about school group bookings, including subsidy information and free livestream options, please visit writersfest.bc.ca/info-for-teachers

Accessibility at the Festival

We're committed to listening, learning, and doing the work to make the Festival a safer, low-barrier experience for you. Please reach out to boxoffice@writersfest.bc.ca. We also provide phone assistance on weekdays between 11am-4pm at (778) 658-0462.

We offer a range of accessibility information and options, including but not limited to: venue access details, ASL at select events (and upon request), priority seating, complimentary support person tickets, and reduced ticket prices for those impeded by cost. All our accessibility information can be found on our website: writersfest.bc.ca/accessibility.



Scan QR code to visit our accessibility page directly.

TERMS No exchanges or refunds except if an event is canceled. Check your order carefully before you click Pay.

Festival Venues

We use several venues on Granville Island for our events, as well as some off-island locations within the city. Please input the below addresses in your GPS of choice for guided directions, or use the **QR code below** to access our annotated and printable maps. Venue maps will be situated across Granville Island during Festival Week.



Scan QR code to access our annotated and printable maps.

On Island Venues

- RS** **The Revue Stage**
1601 Johnston St.

WT **Waterfront Theatre**
1412 Cartwright St.

N **The NEST, Third Floor, Festival House,**
1398 Cartwright St.

PW **Performance Works,**
1218 Cartwright St.
- GS** **Granville Island Stage,**
1585 Johnston St.

GH **Granville Island Hotel,**
1253 Johnston St.

OC **Origins Coffee,**
1245 Cartwright St.
(Festival Bookstore)

Off Island Venues

- PT** **Vancouver Playhouse**
600 Hamilton St.

CPA **The Chan Centre for the Performing Arts**
6265 Crescent Rd.
- HT** **Hollywood Theatre,**
3123 W Broadway

Parking Information

Granville Island has a parking system with metered and all-day options.

- Pay parking in effect **11am–6pm**
- Free parking **6pm–11am**

Parking is extremely limited during retail hours, especially on the weekend. We highly encourage patrons to take public transportation, taxis, or use rideshares whenever possible.




This product is made of material from well-managed FSC®-certified forests and from recycled materials.

Festival *Bookstore*



Festival Bookstore:

 Origins Coffee
(1245 Cartwright St.)

Bookstore Hours:

Tuesday–Saturday
10am–10pm
Sunday
10am–6pm

Publisher *Thank You*

Thank you to the following publishers for supporting author travel at this year’s Festival.

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Biblioasis | Orca Book Publishers |
| Book*hug Press | Pajama Press |
| Coach House Books | Penguin Random House Canada |
| Douglas & McIntyre | Publishers Group Canada |
| Dundurn Press | Raincoast Books |
| ECW Press | Red Deer Press |
| HarperCollins Canada | Scholastic Canada |
| House of Anansi Press | Simon & Schuster Canada |
| Kids Can Press | TouchWood Editions |

Support the *Vancouver Writers Fest*

When you give to the Vancouver Writers Fest you're supporting the power of books and storytelling. Plus, your contribution helps our efforts to eliminate barriers of participation for others. Here are three ways to give:

Become a *Festival Member*

VWF Members receive special access, perks, and exclusive content, including:

- Festival Program Guide mailed to you
- Member Preview event with a sneak peak of the Festival Reading List
- Early access to Festival tickets
- 10% discount on all Festival tickets
- A vote at the VWF Annual General Meeting

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP: \$40

Be part of our community today by joining as a member: writersfest.bc.ca/membership

Become A Page-Turner — *Join Our Monthly Donor Club*

Page Turner 

Page-Turners are lovers of the literary arts: just like a good book you can't put down, Page-Turners help us ensure our story keeps going.

Become a Page-Turner:

Visit writersfest.bc.ca/donate to make your monthly gift.

Monthly donations of \$10/month or more include a complimentary membership. These donations are crucial for maintaining our operational costs as we continue programs and planning for year-round events.

Become a Strategic Benefactor

Donate publicly-traded securities to our charity and benefit from significant tax savings. Eliminate taxable capital gains on these securities, receive a tax credit of the same value, and become part of the heart of our literary community.

Connect with VWF Year-Round

The Vancouver Writers Fest works year-round to connect readers to exceptional books and ideas. By leveraging the power of stories and storytelling, we seek to build empathy and connection, spark curiosity, and delight in the sheer joy of words. **Our programs include:**

Incite

Incite offers conversations with celebrated authors and emerging talents every two weeks from January to June. These events are free and open to all.



Presented in partnership with the Vancouver Public Library and with support from TELUS Optik and the Government of British Columbia.

Special Events

Special Events feature some of the biggest international authors being published today, engaging in provocative conversations. We're excited these events have returned to in-person this year.

My Roots

The My Roots Workshop encourages a small cohort of immigrants to develop and share their stories of place through a mix of writing exercises and writing craft lessons once a year.

My Roots is presented thanks to the generous support of Robin Pascoe and Rodney Briggs.

Whisky & Words

Our biggest annual fundraiser, where guests engage in a multi-sensory experience, exploring local and international whisky, wine, and live entertainment. Learn more at whiskywords.ca.

Book Club for Inmates

We're embracing intimate events in seldom-reached communities through a pilot project with Book Club for Inmates. We're proud to be bringing authors this fall to Book Club gatherings inside detention facilities.

Youth Education Programming

YEP! offers students the opportunity to interact with celebrated writers in more than 50 events designed specifically for young people, teachers, schools and student groups.

Writers in the Classroom: 30 authors visit local schools for intimate classroom discussions and workshops in both traditional and non-traditional learning environments. These visits—offered free to schools—are designed to connect children and youth to authors through lively, interactive events.

Presented thanks to the support of the Government of British Columbia and Bonnie Mah.

To learn more about our fall Writers in the Classroom authors, please see our youth brochure, available at writersfest.bc.ca/youth

Fall 2023 Authors: Nancy and Mike Deas · Deidre D. Havrelock and Edward Kay · Holly Hogan · Valerie Jerome · Tanya Lloyd Kai · Amanda West Lewis · Claire Lordon · Kirsten Pendreigh · Aden Polydoros · Richard Scrimger · Emily Satoko Seo · Henry Tsang · Andrea Warner

At the Festival: Last year, nearly one third of our Festival Programming consisted of events for youth. 10,900+ students participated in events at our 2022 Festival, thanks in part to support from TELUS Optik. Around 1,600 additional students were supported through our Festival ticket and bus subsidies.

Youth Writing Contest: Our annual writing contests are for highschool and middle school students, awarding a cash prize for first and second place in each category. The Youth Writing Contest is presented thanks to the generous support of Emily Carr University of Art + Design.

My Roots for Youth: For the first time in 2022, we offered our signature, free My Roots Writing Workshop to upper high-school students who are immigrants or children of immigrants.

Presented thanks to the generous support of Robin Pascoe and Rodney Briggs.



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Government Support



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Festival Supporter



We'd like to thank all of the artisans and vendors of Granville Island who donate food, goods, and services to us during Festival Week and throughout the year.

Founder and Lifetime Member

Alma Lee

Board of Directors

Chair Karen Gilmore	Treasurer Benita Loughlin
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Andie Bjornsfelt	Julie Iannacone
Alison Broddle	Alexia Jones
Pat Cumming	Steve Tornes
Jaiden Dembo	Caroline White
Kyla Epstein	Sonia Wong

Our Team

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Coordinator

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(ZG Stories)

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(EventLAB)

Collaborators

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Program Guide Printing

Showpass,
Festival Box Office

Rafael Mayani,
2023 Festival Artwork

Trevor Battye Advertising Sales,
Program Guide Advertising

ZAK,
Festival Designs and Program Guide

2023 Festival Participants

Elamin Abdelmehmoud

Jillian Christmas

Benjamin Millman

Victoria Adukwei Bulley

Jamaluddin Aram

Michael Audain

Ashley Audrain

Mona Awad

Carleigh Baker

Alan Barillaro

Jes Battis

Anne Berest

Carmen Boullosa

Louise Candlish

Corinna Chong

Kevin Chong

Ben Clanton

Helen Cova

Lorna Crozier

Michael Crummey

Mike Deas

Nancy Deas

Natasha Deen

Patrick deWitt

Claudia Day

Cherie Dimaline

Emma Donoghue

Arnolda Dufour Bowes

Deborah Dundas

Esi Edugyan

Alicia Elliott

Jenny Erpenbeck

Christine Estima

Elaine Feeney

Ian Ferguson

Jen Ferguson

Will Ferguson

John Freeman

Patrick Friesen

Andrea Fritz

Rueben George

Charlotte Gill

Don Gillmor

Michelle Good

Lauren Groff

Ayelet Gundar-Goshen

Jason Guriel

Paul Harding

Robyn Harding

J r mie Harris

Aisha Harris

Beatriz Hausner

Elizabeth Hay

Emma Healey

Catherine Hernandez

Holly Hogan

Emma Hooper

Daniel Innes

Tania James

Valerie Jerome

Nicola Jones

Michelle Kadarusman

Daniel Kalla

Jon Klassen

Naomi Klein

Helen Knott

Clara Kumagai

Christine Lai

Shari Lapena

Jen Sookfong Lee

Joanne Leow

Catherine Leroux

Tanya Lloyd Kyi

Carrie Mac

Stephen Marche

Jeannie Marshall

Anna Maxymiw

Suzette Mayr

Darrel J. McLeod

Michael Melgaard

Sean Michaels

Silvia Moreno-Garcia

Susan Musgrave

Celeste Ng

Fae Myenne Ng

Liz Nugent

Janika Oza

Kirsten Pendreigh

William Ping

Casey Plett

Aden Polydoros

Michelle Porter

Zalika Reid-Benta

Naben Ruthnum

Emi Sasagawa

Richard Scrimger

Christina Sharpe

Sam Shelstad

Crystal Smith

Michael V. Smith

Rebecca Solnit

Ashley Spires

Amy Stuart

Sarah Suk

Andrew F. Sullivan

Joel A. Sutherland

Tui T. Sutherland

Jillian Tamaki

Mariko Tamaki

Wanda Taylor

Kai Thomas

Y-Dang Troeung

Henry Tsang

Chris Turner

John Vaillant

katherena vermette

Chelsea Wakelyn

Andrea Warner

Matthew James Weigel

Amanda West Lewis

Sam Wiebe

Christina Wong

Lindsay Wong

A.T. Woodley

Max Wyman

Ada Zhang

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 | 7:30 PM | FREE 

Zadie Smith in Conversation with *Madeleine Thien*

Presented in partnership with UBC School of Creative Writing and the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts.

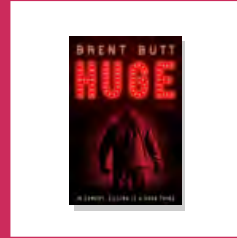
Zadie Smith, widely recognized as one of the finest and most influential authors writing in English today, joins the Vancouver Writers Fest for an evening of unforgettable storytelling around Smith's latest novel, *The Fraud*. Smith will speak with her internationally-renowned Canadian contemporary, **Madeleine Thien**, author of the multi-award-winning novel *Do Not Say We Have Nothing*.

We have made this event **free to all**, as a gift to the local community that has supported us so generously and steadfastly through turbulent pandemic years.

If you don't have a ticket: there will be a standby line at the venue set up two hours prior to the event, where empty seats will be assigned on a first-come, first-serve basis, at showtime, according to availability.

Books will be for sale at the event courtesy of Book Warehouse, a division of Black Bond Books.

ZADIE SMITH is the author of *White Teeth*, *The Autograph Man*, *On Beauty*, *NW* and *Swing Time*; the novella, *The Embassy of Cambodia*; three collections of essays, *Changing My Mind*, *Feel Free* and *Intimations*; a collection of short stories, *Grand Union*; and the play, *The Wife of Willede*. (ENGLAND)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3 | 7:30 PM | \$35 

Brent Butt in Conversation with *Charlie Demers*

Brent Butt is one of the most well-known stand-up comedians of the past five decades. He's created and starred in two of TV's funniest sitcoms: *Corner Gas* and *Hiccups*. Now, he is entering the world of the psychological thriller with his riveting debut novel, *HUGE*, about three stand-up comedians on a tour in the rural Canadian countryside. After a hulking young man is added to the bill at the last minute, the tour soon becomes less about getting laughs and more about getting off the road alive.

Join us at the Hollywood Theatre for a special set of Butt's uproarious stand-up comedy, before he dives into a conversation with local thriller author and Juno-nominated comedian **Charlie Demers**, followed by a Q&A session with the audience. This will be a spine-tingling, side-splitting thrill of an event.

Books will be for sale at the event courtesy of Book Warehouse, a division of Black Bond Books, and Brent Butt will sign books after the event!

BRENT BUTT is considered one of the funniest people in Canada, with a career in stand-up comedy that stretches five decades, including being voted Best Male Stand-Up in Canada by his peers in the profession. He created and starred in two successful, award-winning sitcoms—*Corner Gas* and *Hiccups*. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)

MONDAY, OCTOBER 16 | 7:30 PM | \$30 

Between the Pages: An Evening with the Scotiabank Giller Prize Finalists

EVENT NUMBER

01

PT PLAYHOUSE THEATRE

CC ASL PROVIDED

Without fail, the winner of the annual Scotiabank Giller Prize becomes a household name in Canada. Those shortlisted also step into the proverbial CanLit Hall of Fame, their titles splashed across best-of lists for good reason. No wonder the Giller shortlist has become a staple of many bibliophiles' reading lists. We're delighted to celebrate these visionary authors to kick off the Festival with the cross-Canada Between the Pages tour. Find out who'll be on stage when the shortlist is announced on October 11th! *Check our website for the full lineup of authors. Moderated by Leslie Hurtig.*

Presented in partnership with the Scotiabank Giller Prize.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17 | 10:15 AM | \$10 

Cherie Dimaline *in Conversation*

EVENT NUMBER

02

BS GRANVILLE ISLAND STAGE

YOUTH

Few authors have captivated Canadian youths' imaginations like **Cherie Dimaline**, whose book *The Marrow Thieves* won multiple awards and was named a Book of the Year across North America. The sequel, *Hunting by Stars*, likewise received tremendous acclaim. Here is an author who explores some of the most pressing issues of our time—colonialism, identity, ecological protection—through captivating and deeply original stories. In this YA event, Cherie will dig into her writing process, her passion for storytelling, and what inspired her latest works: *Funeral Songs for Dying Girls*, about a teen who befriends a ghost, and *Into the Bright Open*, a new take on *The Secret Garden*. A must see. Grades 8–12. *Moderated by Margaret Gallagher.*



The best way to support a community is to be a part of it.

At the heart of every community, you'll find organizations fueled by committed people who are passionate about building a better future for us all. We are inspired by our friends at **The Vancouver International Writers Festival Society** and their continuous efforts to connect people to exceptional books, ideas and dialogue through year-round programming that ignites a passion for words and the world around us.

rbc.com/community



TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17 | 10:15 AM | \$10 

A Morning with *Jon Klassen*

EVENT NUMBER

03

WT WATERFRONT THEATRE

 YOUTH

Who can resist hearing from the charming, multi-award-winning author and artist, **Jon Klassen**? In this event for little ones, the ubiquitous storyteller will delve into his new book *The Skull*, a funny, spooky tale of Otilia, a little girl who finds herself lost in a dark forest only to find shelter in a big abandoned house. It turns out there's a skull living there who's afraid of something. Can Otilia save herself and this strange companion? With Klassen's unique style and engaging presentations, this is a fun morning for kids right before Halloween. *Grades 1–3.*

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17 | 10:15 AM | \$10 

Masterclass: *The Best Way to Get Your Way*

EVENT NUMBER

04

N THE NEST

 YOUTH

Here's a skill that's important at any age: how to talk to people who share different opinions than yours. Arguably, it's a skill we need *more* of in a time of social media-fuelled division and polarization. **Tanya Lloyd Kyi**, a beloved guest of the Festival and author of more than 25 books for kids, reveals tips for debating in respectful—and effective—ways. *The Best Way to Get Your Way* can help kids master exactly how it's done and shows, through multiple scenarios, how making a smart and logical argument is the way to convince others! Relevant and engaging, Tanya's work will support young folks looking to be heard—the right way. *Grades 4–7.*

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17 | 10:15 AM | \$10 

Finding *Your Way*

EVENT NUMBER

05

RS THE REVUE STAGE

 YOUTH

When life takes a tricky turn, sometimes it's difficult to know which path to forge. Three authors share their stories of challenge and resilience in this moderated conversation. Debut author and award-winning filmmaker **Alan Barillaro** delivers a stirring story about a young girl who learns that growing up means taking responsibility in *Where the Water Takes Us*. Author **Michelle Kadarusman** has lived and travelled around the world, and uses *We the Sea Turtles* to shed light on how people ground themselves when they've been uprooted. **A.T. Woodley** transports readers to another world in *The Boy Who Woke the Sun*; a world of Elliot's dreams, in which the 11-year-old needs to discover his true path. *Grades 4–7.*
Moderated by Shannon Ozirny.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17 | 1:00 PM | \$10 

Word! (1)

EVENT NUMBER

06

GS GRANVILLE ISLAND STAGE

 YOUTH

Our Spoken Word event series, curated and hosted by award-winning poet and spoken word artist **Jillian Christmas**, is a varied, powerful highlight of our youth programming every year. This Word! features three exceptional performers, sharing poems about love, art, justice, and more. **D Fretter** has been described as "... like a hip-hop Andrea Gibson" or "a philosophical Shel Silverstein." **fanny kearse** fuses her experience as a social worker and her lived experiences as a marginalized human to express activism through poetry and storytelling. **Em Nimetz** is known for their vulnerability and authenticity, and magnetic presence, in their performances as an actor and a poet. *Grades 8–12. Hosted by Jillian Christmas.*

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17 | 1:00 PM | \$10 

Picture Book
Storytime

EVENT NUMBER

07

WT WATERFRONT THEATRE

 YOUTH

What a combination! Two of the best-loved illustrator-authors of children's literature share their new work with students. **Jon Klassen** is revered for his entirely original illustrations which accompany whimsical tales. **Ben Clanton's** *Narwhal* series made us fall in love with the majestic and underrated creature. Both authors have new books perfect for the Halloween season. Join presentations on *The Skull* and *A Super Scary Narwhalloween* in an event as cozy as it is spooky! *Grades 1–3.*

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17 | 1:00 PM | \$10 

Masterclass:
Maybe a Whale

EVENT NUMBER

08

N THE NEST

 YOUTH

In this masterclass for little ones, author and illustrator come together to describe how a story becomes a book. *Maybe a Whale*, written by **Kirsten Pendreigh** and illustrated by **Crystal Smith**, tells a moving story of learning to grieve someone you love—and how being in nature can help you connect with each other, and yourself. Students will feel immersed in storytime as Kirsten and Crystal's book comes alive on stage. But how does a book like this come to be? Which comes first, the writing or the drawings? And how does Crystal know exactly what parts of the story to draw? The author/illustrator duo will reveal the secrets behind making a children's book, and share more about this touching story, too. *Grades 1–3.*



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Parviz Tanavoli in his Zal-e Zar studio, Tehran, 1964, Courtesy of the Artist

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17 | 1:00 PM | \$10

**Spooky
Stories**

EVENT NUMBER

09

RS THE REVUE STAGE

YOUTH

Prepare to feel goosebumps with these tales of hauntings and mysteries from two bestselling writers. **Joel A. Sutherland's** *Haunted Canada* series is a cult classic and a highlight of book fairs across the country. In the twelfth edition, more chilling than ever, Joel shares stories of black cat visits, mischievous spirits, and unusual sobs in strange places. Meanwhile, the kid detectives in **Natasha Deen's** *Spooky Sleuths* series are asking themselves: is it science, or is it ghostly? In each tale, Deen spins a story based on Guyanese folklore. Tickle kids' imaginations with these pre-Halloween series. *Grades 4–7. Moderated by Shannon Ozirny.*

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17 | 6:00 PM | \$25

**Ian Ferguson & Will Ferguson
in Conversation**

EVENT NUMBER

10

WT WATERFRONT THEATRE

These brothers have a fraternal flair for the written word. With four Leacock Medals for Humour and multiple other awards including a Giller Prize and the CBA Libris Award for Non-Fiction, the duo have teamed up once again, after their hugely bestselling *How to Be a Canadian*, to deliver a gripping thriller: *I Only Read Murder*. For fans of Richard Osman, Alexander McCall Smith, or *Schitt's Creek*, the tale follows a once-beloved television sleuth who finds herself far from Hollywood, only to witness a murder during a small-town theatre production. She's convinced it's up to her to solve the case. Delve into a delightful evening about this rollicking yarn, the process of writing with family, and what makes a plot a page-turner. *Moderated by Alison Broddle.*

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The Storm
Inside Us

EVENT NUMBER

11

THE NEST

If literature explores the deepest parts of our lives and is a place to underscore often-hidden topics in our culture, surely mental health is one of the most important contemporary issues for us to grapple with in this form. **Alicia Elliott** (*And Then She Fell*) and **Carrie Mac** (*Last Winter*) will speak to the process of writing about mental health, mental illness, and its relationship to family and community. How can one write about mental illness while protecting one's own health? How does literature help us discuss taboo subjects hidden just below the surface? And why did these authors choose to delve into such important but challenging areas of life? Two writers on every 'Must Read' list in the country will answer. *Moderated by Carleigh Baker.*

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17 | 6:00 PM | \$25 

Marvelous
Meta Fiction

EVENT NUMBER

12

THE REVUE STAGE

Books within books, protagonists who are also their authors, plot twists about the narrator: some of the most celebrated writers in history—from Pynchon to Atwood to Jemisin—have used deeply creative ways to change the boundaries between reader. Three authors with anticipated new books in this style explore the joys of such playfulness and the literary challenges of subverting common styles. **Kevin Chong's** *The Double Life of Benson Yu* follows a graphic novelist who loses control of his own narrative. *Hollow Bamboo* follows two **William Pings** in Newfoundland—the lost millennial and the grandfather he knows nothing about. **Sam Shelstad's** *The Cobra and the Key* is a hilarious creative writing guide... with a twist. Clever, invigorating, and not to be missed. *Moderated by Eddy Boudel Tan.*

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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17 | 7:30 PM | \$25

The Alma Lee Opening Night Event: *Page-Turning Thrills*

EVENT NUMBER

13

GS GRANVILLE ISLAND STAGE

Looking for books to keep you up at night when you decide to read “just one more chapter”? We have the event for you. Three of the world’s most celebrated thriller writers join us on stage to talk about craft, mystery, crime, and plots that get your pulse racing. **Louise Candlish’s** *The Only Suspect* is a new work about obsession and deadly secrets. **Shari Lapena** has been called “a master of manipulation” by USA Today, and her latest thrilling domestic suspense novel, *Everyone Here is Lying*, proves it. Irish writer **Liz Nugent**, an international bestseller, joins us to talk about her wickedly dark and sharply observed novel, *Strange Sally Diamond*, about a woman confronting her unknown past. Your TBR pile just got bigger—but don’t worry, you’ll read these quickly. *Moderated by André Picard.*

Presented thanks to the support of Simon & Schuster.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17 | 8:30 PM | \$25

Roaming

EVENT NUMBER

14

WT WATERFRONT THEATRE

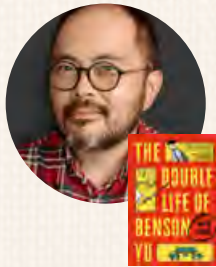
Jillian and Mariko Tamaki, the critically acclaimed and Caldecott Medal-winning graphic novelists, are turning their hand to a new story with *Roaming*, which Gabby Rivera explained, “made me wanna be 17 all over again.” This literary, elegantly illustrated work from Drawn & Quarterly shares the consequences of a trip with three friends to New York, including an unexpected fling that blossoms between casual acquaintances and throws a long-term friendship off-balance. For graphic novel fans, or readers who are just exploring the genre after falling in love with *Ducks*, this promises to be a future classic. The authors will discuss why they’re now making a foray into adult fiction, the growth of graphic novels... and why they chose the Big Apple for such a rich, layered work. *Moderated by Sarah Leavitt.*

Presented in partnership with SFU’s Master of Publishing Program.

Welcoming our authors to Vancouver Writers Fest



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NUGENT



Kevin
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Jamaluddin
ARAM



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KALLA



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CANDLISH

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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17 | 8:30 PM | \$25

Patrick deWitt
in Conversation

EVENT NUMBER

15

N THE NEST

Patrick deWitt is the perfect poster child for aspiring writers. Since dropping out of high school to focus on becoming a writer, he's won the Governor General's Literary Award, the Atwood Gibson Writers' Trust Fiction Prize, and been a finalist for the Booker and Giller Prizes. His last novel, *French Exit*, is now being made into a motion picture with Michelle Pfeiffer. Moreover, his novels—of endlessly creative and varying styles and topics—are events when they publish. He joins us to discuss his latest and no less brilliant work, *The Librarianist*, celebrating the extraordinary in the so-called ordinary life; his lifelong love of the written word; and his surprising, brave, and exceptional career to date. *Moderated by Bill Richardson.*

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17 | 8:30 PM | \$25

Inheriting
Truth

EVENT NUMBER

16

RS THE REVUE STAGE



GUEST CURATOR

CC ASL PROVIDED

These books consciously deal with the weight of inheritance, whether it's inheriting story, self-mythology, or trauma. How do we make sense of what's been passed down to us? Three lauded novelists discuss just this with our **Guest Curator Elamin Abdelmehmoud**. **Janika Oza's** instant national bestseller, *A History of Burning*, follows three sisters across generations as they experience the reverberations of their family's past. **katherena vermette's** *The Circle*, a sequel to *The Break*, shares the far-reaching consequences of a missing woman in a small community. And **Ada Zhang's** exceptional debut, *The Sorrows of Others*, probes intergenerational ties that bind. Each shows why the webs and depths of inheritance are as powerful as they are often invisible.

Presented in partnership with UBC Library.

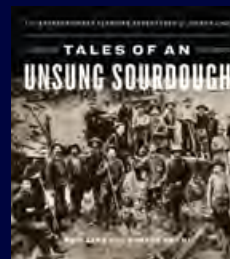
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Word! (2)

EVENT NUMBER

17

GS GRANVILLE ISLAND STAGE

YOUTH

Our Spoken Word event series, curated and hosted by award-winning poet and spoken word artist **Jillian Christmas**, is a varied, powerful highlight of our youth programming every year. This Word! features three exceptional performers, sharing poems about love, art, justice, and more. **D Fretter** has been described as "... like a hip-hop Andrea Gibson" or "a philosophical Shel Silverstein." **fanny kearse** fuses her experience as a social worker and her lived experiences as a marginalized human to express activism through poetry and storytelling. **Em Nimetz** is known for their vulnerability, authenticity, and magnetic presence in their performances as an actor and a poet. *Grades 8–12. Hosted by Jillian Christmas.*

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18 | 10:15 AM | \$10

Shadows, Wrath,
and Haunting Writing

EVENT NUMBER

18

PW PERFORMANCE WORKS

YOUTH

Students will be on the edge of their seats hearing from writers who have produced two of the creepiest YA books of the season! Award-winning **Aden Polydoros'** *Wrath Becomes Her* is *Frankenstein* meets *Inglourious Basterds*. This is a powerful Jewish historical horror novel about a golem—a creature brought to life with ancient magic—made in the image of a murdered daughter with a mission to avenge her death. Bestselling author **Joel A. Sutherland's** *House of Ash and Bone* is spine-tinglingly macabre; described as *The Haunted* meets *House of Salt and Sorrows*. Award-winner **Naben Ruthnum** takes his first suspenseful foray into YA with small-town mysteries in *The Grimmer*. *Grades 8–12. Moderated by Robert J. Wiersema.*

Joseph Kakwinokanasum
2018 graduate

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18 | 10:15 AM | \$10 

Storytime

EVENT NUMBER

19

WT WATERFRONT THEATRE

 YOUTH

Three authors who have captivated people of all ages with their art and storytelling will offer a truly mesmerizing morning for little ones. **Andrea Fritz** is a Coast Salish artist and storyteller who tells the tale of a salmon and a sea otter who learn it's okay to say "I don't know" and ask for help in *Otter Doesn't Know*. Canada Reads finalist **Catherine Hernandez** reveals how we can show love to difficult feelings we have in *Where Do Your Feelings Live?* And two-time Scotiabank Giller Prize-winner **Esi Edugyan** debuts her first picture book with *Garden of Lost Socks*: a whimsical story about friendship, curiosity, and the magic of a vibrant community. *Grades 1–3.*

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18 | 10:15 AM | \$10 

Masterclass with *Tui T. Sutherland*

EVENT NUMBER

20

N THE NEST

 YOUTH

What an opportunity! #1 *New York Times* bestselling author **Tui T. Sutherland** will take students through her creative process in this masterclass. The *Wings of Fire* series author has dazzled with her epic dragon fantasies. She'll share more about how she comes up with ideas, the writing and editing process, and what her journey has been throughout the series. Students will leave with practical tips and a lot of inspiration to embark on their own projects. *Grades 4–7.*




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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18 | 1:00 PM | \$10 

Rise Up!

EVENT NUMBER

21

GS GRANVILLE ISLAND STAGE

 YOUTH

Andrea Warner's *Rise Up* and *Sing* is an inspiring introduction to activism and social justice for young teens, showing the important role music plays in changing the world. Featuring musicians such as Beyoncé, Billie Eilish, Lizzo, Lady Gaga, Lil Nas X, and iconic artists from past generations, Andrea's book shows how music contributed to the fight for social justice—and continues to do so. She's joined by musicians **Missy D**, **Kimmortal**, and **Chris Reed/Continental Breakfast**, each of whom will perform and speak to how they use music in their own activism. The book even includes a playlist with recommended songs about areas of activism. This is an event, and book, that is as uplifting as it is rocking. *Grades 8–12.*

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ARIANA MOJADIDI
BACHELOR OF ARTS, CREATIVE WRITING



Ariana Mojadidi has been a passionate writer for as long as she can remember. From journal entries to poetry, Mojadidi has always been excited to create thought-provoking pieces. This interest led her to enroll in KPU's bachelor of arts in creative writing, a four-year program that facilitates critical awareness, cultural sensitivity, social responsibility, civic engagement, and global citizenship in an innovative, interdisciplinary classroom experience.

As Mojadidi progressed through the program to refine her writing skills, her biggest accomplishment went beyond the page to confidence building. “My most positive experience is joining a writing community and opening up and sharing my views with my remarkable peers,” she shares. “They have indeed been helpful critics and fantastic listeners.”

Through her newfound confidence and a supportive community, Mojadidi improved key employable skills, including public speaking, a previous fear that transformed into a strength. “When I was asked to read my poems at our program's wrap-up social, I was thrilled,” reflects Mojadidi. “As students, we always had opportunities to place ourselves out there and I believe that to be a big success.”

After Mojadidi completed her program, she was empowered to use her experience at KPU to fulfill her dream of becoming an educator. “Ever since I was in the third grade, I always wanted to become a teacher, an influencer, and a motivator,” she describes. “I am excited to become a profound educator like my influential professors.”

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18 | 1:00 PM | \$10

Burt the Beetle
with Ashley Spires

EVENT NUMBER

22

PW PERFORMANCE WORKS

YOUTH

One of the staples of our children’s programming here at the Festival, **Ashley Spires** continues to delight classes, teachers, and families with her prolific and delightful books. In *Burt the Beetle Lives Here*, our favourite bug learns about the different places insects call home. He’s looking for a place to rest himself, but what does he need? A hive, a tunnel, a place in the trees? Fact and fiction wrapped in hilarity will keep kids laughing while learning about insects. *Grades 1–3.*

Presented in collaboration with the Vancouver International Children’s Festival.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18 | 1:00 PM | \$10

The Strength of Owls, Turtles... and Kids

EVENT NUMBER

23

WT WATERFRONT THEATRE

YOUTH

Each of these books showcases the hidden strengths in nature—and in us. Kids will be amazed by the abilities of owls and turtles, and inspired by Firefox, who’s surrounded by animals on her own adventures. **Arnolda Dufour Bowes’** *Maggie Lou*, *Firefox* shows how hard work and perseverance can bring valuable new skills, without losing one iota of irrepressible spirit. **Nicola Jones’** *Saving the Spotted Owl* is a fascinating nonfiction deep dive into an owl chick’s rescue. **Michelle Kadarusman**, meanwhile, shows us the majesty of ancient creatures through eight evocative stories told in *We the Sea Turtles*. Come be inspired by the wonder around us and within us. *Grades 4–7. Moderated by France Perras.*

The Vancouver Writers Fest offers our deep gratitude to **WENDI MACKAY**, whose *generous bequest* will support ensuring that children can come to the Festival.



We’re honoured to be remembered in this way, and proud that Wendi, who traveled across the world, felt such a strong bond to the Vancouver Writers Fest family. *Thank you, Wendi*, for making a love of literature part of your lasting legacy.



11TH ANNUAL

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the pages**

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18 | 1:00 PM | \$10

Masterclass
with Sarah Suk

EVENT NUMBER

24

THE NEST

YOUTH

Vancouver-based author **Sarah Suk** is known for her gripping, atmospheric YA novels. Her latest work, *The Space between Here & Now*, follows a teen with a mysterious condition that transports her to the past when she smells certain scents linked to specific memories. It's an aching, powerful exploration of memory, grief, and the painful silences we must overcome to discover our truest selves. Sarah will share her writing insights with students in this informative, engaging masterclass. How can fictional stories divulge important information about our real lives? How do authors come up with multiple book ideas? Can editing ever be fun? Sarah answers all. *Grades 8–12.*

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18 | 1:00 PM | \$10

**Bestselling Teen Fiction
for a Reason**

EVENT NUMBER

25

THE REVUE STAGE

YOUTH

Cherie Dimaline and **Jen Ferguson** are two of the biggest names in YA—and no wonder. Cherie's debut *The Marrow Thieves* captured imaginations across the continent for its bold dystopian vision and has become a modern classic. Jen's debut won a Governor General's Literary Award and has made her a favourite of teachers, librarians, and readers ever since. Both write about Indigenous teens and the struggles they face, whether in this world or others. They'll each speak about their writing journey to date, their passion for YA literature, and how their mesmerizing ideas take shape. This is a chance for students to discover more about admired authors, and hear about their brand new books: *Funeral Songs for Dying Girls* and *Into the Bright Open* by Cherie Dimaline, and *Those Pink Mountain Nights* by Jen Ferguson. *Grades 8–12. Moderated by Molly Cross-Blanchard.*

Presented in partnership with Talking Stick Festival and the Canada Council for the Arts to celebrate the finalists and winners of the Governor General's Literary Awards.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18 | 6:00 PM | \$25

The Strength of Storytelling

EVENT NUMBER

26

PW PERFORMANCE WORKS

And Then She Fell “is the fulfillment of the promise of **Alicia Elliott’s** storytelling prowess” according to Cherie Dimaline. *A Grandmother Begins the Story*, by **Michelle Porter**, is “charged with huge blasts of imaginative force,” and Erica T. Wurth calls **katherena vermette’s** *The Circle* “a polyphonic masterpiece.” What a gift to be joined by three of the most lauded and creative Indigenous writers in conversation. They speak to the process of writing their poignant, nuanced, exceptionally moving stories; the strength of Indigenous women at the heart of their latest works; and the nuance of beauty and heartbreak interwoven in stories and life. *Moderated by Michelle Cyca.*

Presented in partnership with Penguin Random House and Talking Stick Festival.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18 | 6:00 PM | \$25

Night Class: *A Workshop with UBC School of Creative Writing*

EVENT NUMBER

27

WT WATERFRONT THEATRE

Now a staple of the Festival, this interactive, unpredictable workshop offers writing tips, tricks, and cues from five members of UBC School of Creative Writing’s illustrious department. Participants will learn key writing skills in five minutes or less through nimble, electrifying craft, and rapid-fire creativity. Try out concepts and ask questions of these creative writing teachers and authors. Full of invigorating thought exercises, Night Class explores a wide array of styles and genres, from poetry and song to comics and speculative fiction. This workshop is suitable for new and established authors. Check our website for further info, including instructor bios. *Hosted by Sarah Leavitt.*

Presented in collaboration with UBC School of Creative Writing.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18 | 6:00 PM | \$25

On Being Human (or not): *Exceptional Short Stories*

EVENT NUMBER

28

N THE NEST

Good short stories can share expansive truths with the smallest details. Each of these authors offer mesmerizing insights into what it means to be human in their collections. **Corinna Chong’s** *The Whole Animal* is perfect for fans of Souvankham Thammavongsa or Lynn Coady; an original debut that grapples with self-discovery, and explores the bodies of humans and animals. **Christine Estima’s** *The Syrian Ladies Benevolent Society* explores indelible linked stories centred around Azurée, a young Arab woman living in the echoes of her ancestors’ voices across the globe. **Ada Zhang’s** *The Sorrows of Others* explores the experience of being outsiders—as immigrants, as revolutionaries—through families in China and America after the Cultural Revolution. These are ideas, themes, and identities worth exploring through the intricate craft of the short story. *Moderated by Anna Ling Kaye.*



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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18 | 6:00 PM | \$25

The Company *We Keep*

EVENT NUMBER

29

RS THE REVUE STAGE

They say that a friend is someone who knows you and loves you anyway. And, certainly, good company can transform our lives and our outlooks. Three thought-provoking authors speak to the beauty of unusual company and surprising friendships, as shared in their latest works. Bob Comet tries to ward off loneliness by volunteering in a community centre full of strange individuals in **Patrick DeWitt's** *The Librarianist*. **Catherine Hernandez's** *The Story of Us* shares the unlikely companionship of a Filipino immigrant caregiver and her patient with Alzheimer's. **Sean Michaels' Do You Remember Being Born?** also includes a friendship with an age difference, this time between a 75-year-old New Yorker and an AI poetry bot. It's the perfect evening for catching up with a friend. *Moderated by Robert J. Wiersema.*

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18 | 8:30 PM | \$25

She's A Scream

EVENT NUMBER

30

PW PERFORMANCE WORKS

There are plenty of things for women to be terrified about—from reproductive rights erasure to violence in rising temperatures, to wrinkles, friendship betrayals, and even things that go bump in the night. These three hugely popular writers have a knack for uncovering the uncanny, and finding thrilling points of tension in both the mundane and bizarre. They share their penchant for this—and what makes for a gripping read—in a discussion likely to be warm, funny, and ever so clever. Join the exceptional **Ashley Audrain** (*The Whispers*), **Mona Awad** (*Rouge*) and **Silvia Moreno-Garcia** (*Silver Nitrate*) for an unforgettable discussion. *Moderated by Jael Richardson.*



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Blackness as a Portal,
Blackness as the Frame

EVENT NUMBER

31

WT WATERFRONT THEATRE

GUEST CURATOR

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Each of these writers analyze their relationship to Blackness from different vantage points and from different ends. In what promises to be a fascinating, powerful discussion, they will share why they write about Black experience, whether through memoir, historical analysis, or cultural criticism, and their relationship to Blackness. The panel includes three of the most exciting literary minds today, brought together by our **Guest Curator, Elamin Abdelmahmoud**. **Aisha Harris** (*Wannabe*) is “one of our smartest, most entertaining modern cultural critics” (*ELLE*). **Suzette Mayr** won the Giller Prize and many others for her astonishingly creative, enveloping *The Sleeping Car Porter*. And **Christina Sharpe** (*Ordinary Notes*) is regularly hailed as inventive, dazzling, and intellectually expansive in her work. *Moderated by Jasmine Sealy.*

Presented in partnership with Hogan’s Alley Society.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18 | 8:30 PM | \$25

Anne Berest in Conversation
with Marsha Lederman

EVENT NUMBER

32

N THE NEST

It’s no exaggeration to say that **Anne Berest’s** *The Postcard* is one of the biggest literary sensations in Europe this century. Winner of multiple prestigious awards, and called “profound,” “brilliant,” and “stunning,” it is a remarkably moving and stylish work of fiction... based on a true story. An anonymous postcard is delivered to the Berest family home, bearing names of her maternal great-grandparents and their children, all killed at Auschwitz. Anne of the novel is moved to discover who sent it and why. What follows is a story of adventure across countries, a family saga and, ultimately, a reminder of how stories can shatter certainties. One of Europe’s most celebrated authors will speak with Marsha Lederman about family history and secrets in the face of abject destruction. *Moderated by Marsha Lederman.*

Presented in partnership with the Consulate General of France in Vancouver and Alliance Française Vancouver.

Congrats to the finalists

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18 | 8:30 PM | \$25

Season of *the Witch* EVENT NUMBER
33

RS THE REVUE STAGE GUEST CURATOR

Witches aren't just for Halloween. In spite of centuries of persecution, Hollywood stereotypes, and cultural misunderstandings, witchcraft is seeing a renaissance, and more and more women are exploring the power and feminism steeped in this practice. Our authors will talk with Guest Curator and Moderator **Elamin Abdelmahmoud** about why the concept of the witch is such a fertile playground for writing. **Zalika Reid-Benta's** *River Mumma* explores Jamaican folklore and the vital connection to ancestral ties. **Cherie Dimaline's** *VenCo* is a deliciously imaginative, deeply feminist novel of contemporary witches on the rise, while **Anna Maxymiw's** *Minique* looks to the witches in history, in a fierce, outsider narrative about the so-called "witch in the woods" in 17th century Montreal. This is all about big witch energy—and subverting stereotypes, from fear to empowerment.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19 | 10:15 AM | \$10

Good Reads for YA EVENT NUMBER
34

PW PERFORMANCE WORKS YOUTH

Our Good Reads events feature books of the season that can't be put down. Each of these new YA titles offers captivating stories that share important topics with youth. In her remarkable second novel, *Those Pink Mountain Nights*, **Jen Ferguson** writes about the hurt of a life stuck in past tense, the hum of connections that cannot be severed, and one week in a small town that changes everything. **Clara Kumagai's** *Catfish Rolling* is perfect for fans of Studio Ghibli films, about a girl coming to terms with grief, adolescence, and new romances. **Amanda West Lewis' Focus. Click. Wind.** follows a brave student photojournalist campaigning against the United States' involvement in the Vietnam War. *Grades 8–12. Moderated by Susin Nielsen.*

Presented in partnership with The Vancouver International Summer School in Children's Literature at UBC.



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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19 | 10:15 AM | \$10 

**Adventures in the
*Pacific Northwest***

EVENT NUMBER

35

 WATERFRONT THEATRE

 YOUTH


The Sueño Bay Adventures graphic novel series, by **Nancy & Mike Deas**, teaches kids about environmentalism, friendship, and home, and regularly receives starred reviews. No wonder it's a go-to staple for teachers and librarians alike. In this fourth book, friends Kay, Ollie, Jenna, and Sleeves try to help a lost moon creature at the lighthouse of *Candle Point*. Nancy and Mike will take students on a magical romp through colourful landscapes and flora, sharing what makes a brilliant adventure and what we can learn from the characters in their series who, book after book, dare to explore strange, fascinating places. *Grades 2–4.*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19 | 10:15 AM | \$10 

**Masterclass with
*Elamin Abdelmahmoud***

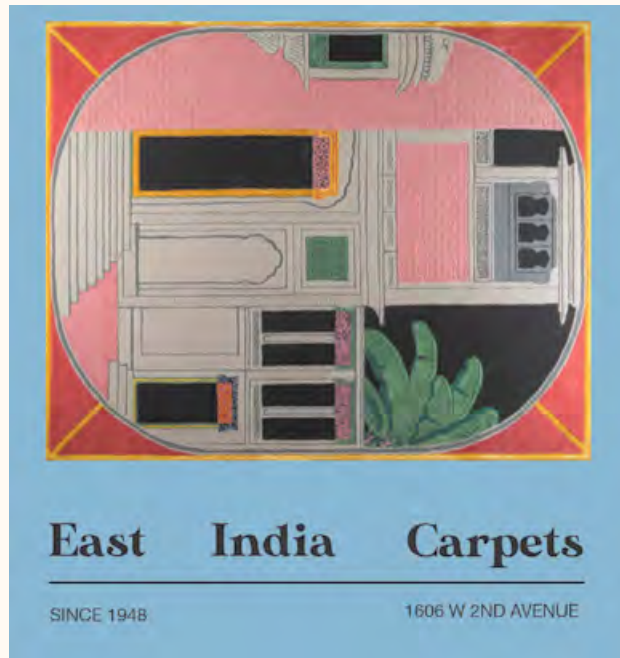
EVENT NUMBER

36

 THE NEST

 YOUTH

Writer, cultural commentator, and podcast host **Elamin Abdelmahmoud** is this year's Guest Curator at the Festival—but his accolades go far beyond that. Students may know his writing from BuzzFeed and Popchat, and he hosts his own radio program on CBC. He's also the bestselling author of *Son of Elsewhere: A Memoir in Pieces*. Let us tell you, Elamin knows how to engage a crowd, and how to tell a story! He'll share some of his tips and tricks on storytelling and presenting in this masterclass, perfect for budding producers, writers, and media makers, or anyone who wants to feel confident in their own skin amidst a crowd. *Grades 8–12.*



EVENT 50

COLLECTED NOTES
ON WRITING

Celebrate with us!

EVENT celebrates 50 years of publication with a *Notes on Writing* anthology, featuring more than 70 personal essays with insights into the joys and struggles of the writer's life and process, written by notable Canadian writers, including Jane Urquhart, David Bergen, André Alexis, Madeleine Thien, Eden Robinson, Jen Sookfong Lee, Zoe Whittall, Joy Kogawa, Souvankham Thammavongsa, Joshua Whitehead, and many others.

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EVENTMAGAZINE.CA

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19 | 10:15 AM | \$10 **Good Reads**
for Middle Grade

EVENT NUMBER

37

 THE REVUE STAGE YOUTH

Maggie Lou's grandpa doesn't call her Firefox for nothing. She's always finding ways to make life more interesting—even if this means getting into big trouble. **Arnolda Dufour Bowes'** *Maggie Lou, Firefox* is a heroine for today, showing kids how you can work hard and gain new skills without losing one iota of your spirit. Meanwhile, charismatic 13-year-old Augustus Constantine has ADHD, meaning his mind, and his mouth, operate at a different speed than the rest of society. **Richard Scrimger** explores the teen's daily reality in *At the Speed of Gus*. **Wanda Taylor's** true to life story, *The Grover School Pledge*, opens up about the pains and triumphs of growing up. These books will underscore how our differences are nothing to be ashamed of, imparting a strength that comes from just being you. *Grades 4–7. Moderated by France Perras.*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19 | 1:00 PM | \$10 **Using**
Pop Culture

EVENT NUMBER

38

 PERFORMANCE WORKS GUEST CURATOR YOUTH

Looking to pop culture to create meaning in our own lives is an important part of every adolescent journey—and beyond. Two engaging, insightful authors touch on elements of pop culture that are not only relevant but fun to talk about. In *Superfan*, **Jen Sookfong Lee** explores family, identity, belonging, and grief through her love of pop culture, and probes the ways in which pop culture can fail to reflect one's identity and even lead to a sense of invisibility. **Aisha Harris's** *Wannabe* reads like hanging out with your smart, hilarious, pop culture-obsessed friend. She turns her razor-sharp wit to her nineties childhood to analyze what shapes us—and what we can shape. They'll be in conversation with writer, broadcaster and Festival Guest Curator **Elamin Abdelmahmoud**. *Grades 8–12.*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19 | 1:00 PM | \$10 **Wings of Fire:**
Tui T. Sutherland in Conversation

EVENT NUMBER

39

 WATERFRONT THEATRE YOUTH

Tui T. Sutherland is a favourite—of booksellers, librarians, and young readers. Her *Wings of Fire* series is a #1 *New York Times* bestseller topping the lists for 122 weeks in total; she has sold 14 million copies of her books; and her work has been translated into 10 languages and counting. Tui will reveal her inspiration behind this epic fantasy series and what her success has felt like as she creates such imaginative, bold worlds. *Grades 4–7. Moderated by Shannon Ozirny.*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19 | 1:00 PM | \$10 **Masterclass with**
Ben Clanton

EVENT NUMBER

40

 THE NEST YOUTH

How do you draw a narwhal, that strange unicorn of the sea? For that matter, how do you begin to draw any animal? **Ben Clanton**, *New York Times* bestselling author and illustrator of the hilarious and charming *Narwhal* series, has delighted children and adults with his imaginative adventures under the sea. In this masterclass for youngsters, he'll show budding artists how he begins his drawings, and how those drawings can tell emotive stories. Participants may even get some spooky tips in time for Halloween with *A Super Scary Narwhalloween*. *Grades 2–4.*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19 | 1:00 PM | \$10

**Fantastical
*Fantasy***

EVENT NUMBER

41

RS THE REVUE STAGE

YOUTH

Step into worlds never before fathomed with three YA fantasy writers who use magic realism and new realms to reveal valuable insights about navigating teenage years—and society—with strength and fairness. **Jes Battis** is a queer autistic writer, teacher, and professor who reimagines Arthurian legends in the upbeat queer fantasy, *The Winter Knight*. **Clara Kumagai** is an award-winning author from Canada, Japan, and Ireland and joins us with her debut magical realism novel *Catfish Rolling*. **Sarah Suk** is a celebrated YA novelist whose latest, *The Space between Here & Now*, follows a youth with a mysterious condition that transports her to the past when she encounters scents linked to specific memories. Students will rethink the bounds of possibility. *Grades 8–12. Moderated by Holman Wang.*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19 | 6:00 PM | \$25

**It Stops Here:
*Rueben George in Conversation***

EVENT NUMBER

42

WT WATERFRONT THEATRE

Here is a memoir and a call to action. **Rueben George** of the Tsleil-Waututh Nation shares the story of the spiritual, cultural, and political resurgence of a nation taking action to reclaim their lands, waters, law, and food systems in the face of colonization in his memoir, *It Stops Here*. Recounting the intergenerational struggle of the Tsleil-Waututh to overcome the harms of colonization, it also underscores the powerful stance they have taken against the expansion of the Trans Mountain Pipeline. Ultimately, this is a call for policymakers to prioritize sacred territory over oil profits. Join us for this important conversation and a reminder of the importance of allyship in the face of megaproject destruction. *Moderated by Michelle Cyca.*

Presented in partnership with Talking Stick Festival.



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19 | 6:00 PM | \$25

Mona Awad
in Conversation

EVENT NUMBER

43

THE NEST

In the few short years since **Mona Awad** published her debut novel, *Bunny*, the author has received cult-like status for her playful, darkly funny, and original stories that explore modern life for women... with a twist. She returns to the Festival after multiple sold-out events to discuss her body of work, and her latest novel, *Rouge*: a horror-tinted, gothic fairy tale about a lonely dress shop clerk whose mother's unexpected death sends her down a treacherous path in pursuit of youth and beauty. *Snow White* meets *Eyes Wide Shut* in this surreal descent into the dark side of beauty, envy, grief, and the complicated love between mothers and daughters. Don't miss what's sure to be a fun, clever evening of conversation with one of our favourite page-turning writers. *Moderated by Lisa Christiansen.*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19 | 6:00 PM | \$25

Rewriting
History

EVENT NUMBER

44

THE REVUE STAGE

If we could rewrite history, what injustices would we right? We may not have time machines (yet) but writing about history at least offers the chance to recast historical figures in a more complex light. These three authors do just this with their captivating works that offer a new perspective on the past. **Jes Battis** reimagines Arthurian legends in *The Winter Knight*: an upbeat queer urban fantasy with a mystery at its heart, in which the Knights of the Round Table collaborate in Vancouver. **Carmen Boullosa's** *The Book of Eve* tells the story of the most famous woman in history from her perspective. And, **Beatriz Hausner** also offers feminist insight in *She Who Lies Above*, on the life of Hypatia of Alexandria, the fourth-century Byzantine mathematician and thinker. Philosopher George Santayana said that those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it. What future is possible when we reimagine it, too? *Moderated by Rhea Tregobov.*

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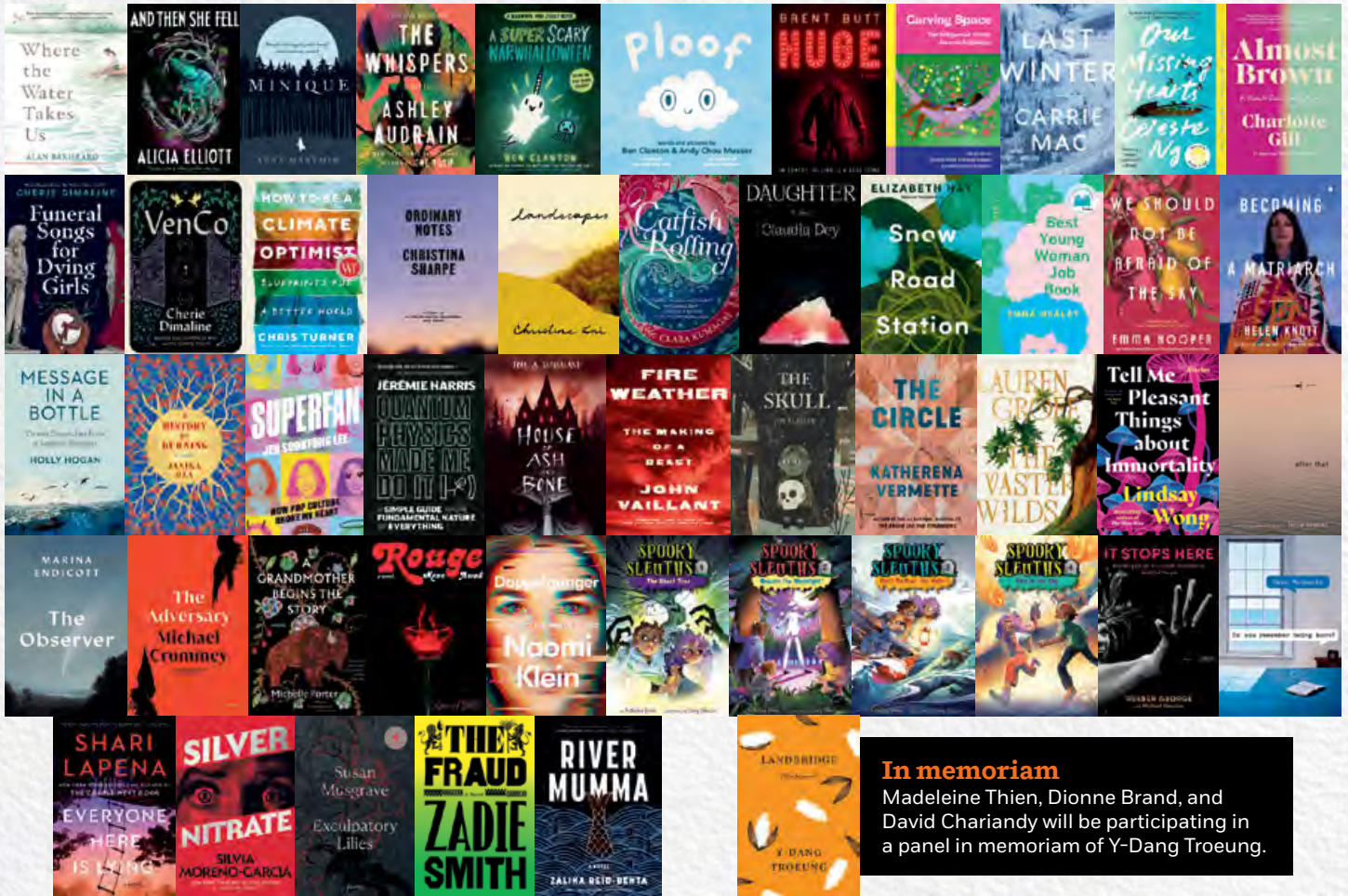
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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19 | 7:30 PM | \$25 **Celeste Ng**
in Conversation

EVENT NUMBER

45 GRANVILLE ISLAND STAGE ASL PROVIDED


Where does one start when listing the accolades and praise for **Celeste Ng**'s deeply felt, intelligent body of work? *Little Fires Everywhere* sold millions of copies worldwide and was adapted to a highly acclaimed series on Hulu. Of her latest, *Our Missing Hearts*, Stephen King shared that "it's impossible not to be moved," while *TIME*, *NPR*, *People*, *The Globe and Mail*, and more, listed it as a book of the year. This inspiring book about the bond between a mother and son, and her unbreakable love, was one of the biggest books of 2022. With the paperback releasing this fall, this lauded author—whose work has been published in more than 30 languages—will speak to her work to date... and what comes next. *Moderated by Jael Richardson.*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19 | 8:00 PM | \$25 **Smells like...**
90s Lyrics Night

EVENT NUMBER


46 PERFORMANCE WORKS


Lyrics night is back! We Truly Madly Deeply loved the 90s when many of us were Livin' La Vida Loca. You Oughta Know that in this Bittersweet Symphony of fun, celebrated authors read their favourite lyrics from the era like they're still in Vogue. If you Believe that Nothing Compares 2 a silly night of MmmBop and Da Funk, then Come As You Are, Under the Bridge to Performance Works, for this Juicy night. You'll be Tearin' Up Our Hearts if you don't visit us Where It's At. Say You'll Be There? Then say you'll join us for our 90s Dance Party, immediately following this event (see Event #49)! Check our website for a complete list of participating authors. *Hosted by Elamin Abdelmahmoud.*




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Courtney Loberg during *Graphic Novels and Visual Narratives*, 2023. Photo by Rita Taylor.

BANFF 90 YEARS
CENTRE FOR ARTS AND CREATIVITY

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19 | 8:30 PM | \$25 

Cli-Fi:
Fiction for our Times

EVENT NUMBER

47

 WATERFRONT THEATRE

The climate crisis is here, and as we grapple with what this means (and what to do about it), some writers offer warnings of what comes next in their fiction. This is Cli-Fi and it's here to stay. **Christine Lai's** *Landscapes* recalls the works of Rachel Cusk and Kazuo Ishiguro through a tale of art and survival in a world after ecological collapse. **Andrew F. Sullivan's** *The Marigold* has been called "a gripping tour-de-force torn from tomorrow's headlines" and looks at a near-future Toronto buffeted by unfettered development. **Catherine Leroux** imagines an alternate history, resulting in a world where children rule over their own kingdom in the trees, set in a strange, polluted, yet magical version of *Detroit in The Future*. Moderated by *Claudia Casper*.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19 | 8:30 PM | \$25 

The Best
of History

EVENT NUMBER

48

 THE REVUE STAGE

 ASL PROVIDED

The past is always fertile ground for rich stories, expansive epics, and high-stakes drama, but the very best writers of historical fiction also remind us of the shared humanity of people across the centuries. Turn the pages of any of these writers' works and we begin to comprehend how we may have been when living in a different place, a different era. In short, historical fiction not only expands our shelves, it expands our empathy. Four of the most celebrated writers of this genre—all of them bestsellers and award-winners—speak to just this within their latest works. Join **Emma Donoghue** (*Learned By Heart*), **Paul Harding** (*This Other Eden*), **Janika Oza** (*A History of Burning*), and **Kai Thomas** (*In the Upper Country*) for this illustrious evening. Moderated by *Aislinn Hunter*.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19 | 9:30 PM | \$10 

90s Dance Party

EVENT NUMBER

49

 PERFORMANCE WORKS

Whether you're reminiscing over nights on the dance floor when slip dresses and Doc Martens were in style, or simply want to move to the beat after sitting immersed in the rest of our events, our 90s Dance Party is sure to bring a smile to your face. Come lipsync to The Backstreet Boys, air guitar to Bon Jovi, relive your clubbing days with Underworld, or simply dance along to your favourite songs of an era. Featuring *DJ Ice B on the turntables*.

Discounted for those attending 90s Lyrics Night.



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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20 | 10:00 AM | \$25 

On the Edge

EVENT NUMBER

50

PW PERFORMANCE WORKS

 GUEST CURATOR

Our modern state is a precarious one and these three writers offer very different approaches to exploring and analyzing our age of decline through memoir, cultural commentary, and a novel. *Toronto Star* Books Editor **Deborah Dundas** (*On Class*), Trillium Book Award Finalist **Emma Healey** (*Best Young Woman Job Book*), and celebrated novelist **Andrew F. Sullivan** (*The Marigold*) speak with **Guest Curator Elamin Abdelmehmoud** about how we can grapple with the cascading system failures of environmental decline, ongoing and rising class inequality, and the gig economy. Far from depressing, each of these books—and this conversation—underscores the power of art for finding solutions. Or at least finding good company and good ideas amidst the chaos.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20 | 10:00 AM | \$25 

Memoirs of *Belonging*

EVENT NUMBER

51

WT WATERFRONT THEATRE

These three authors have led remarkable lives, and their memoirs are enveloping tapestries of storytelling about family and belonging. Bestselling author and PEN/Faulkner Finalist **Fae Myenne Ng** (*Orphan Bachelors*), award-winning Canadian author **Charlotte Gill** (*Almost Brown*), and national bestseller **Helen Knott** (*Becoming a Matriarch*), each speak to ties across generations, the complexity of identity in the face of historic ills and colonialism, as well as the process of piecing these often-intangible frameworks of our lives on paper. *Moderated by Anna Ling Kaye.*

House of Anansi Press and Groundwood Books
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Amanda West Lewis, author of *Focus. Click. Wind.* • **Arnolda Dufour Bowes**, author of *Maggie Lou, Firefox* • **Kirsten Pendreigh**, author of *Maybe a Whale* • **Crystal Smith**, illustrator of *Maybe a Whale* • **Michael Melgaard**, author of *Not That Kind of Place*
Patrick deWitt, author of *The Librarianist*



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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20 | 10:00 AM | \$25 **Debut
Fiction**

EVENT NUMBER

52**RS** THE REVUE STAGE

Each year, this event showcases authors you may not have heard of but whose debut fiction is buzzworthy—and likely appears on some of the biggest prize lists in the country. That is to say: you heard them here first, folks! **William Ping** draws on elements of magical realism, autofiction, and satire in his moving, inventive *Hollow Bamboo*. Métis academic and storyteller **Michelle Porter** has published nonfiction, but *A Grandmother Begins The Story* is her first novel and a national bestseller. And, **Chelsea Wakelyn's** *What Remains of Elsie Jane* is a heartbreaking and darkly funny portrait of a woman unravelling in the wake of tragedy. Discover these remarkable voices. *Moderated by Tara McGuire.*

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20 | 1:00 PM | \$25 **Book Banning in a
Precarious Age**

EVENT NUMBER

53**PW** PERFORMANCE WORKS**CC** ASL PROVIDED

Book banning is on the rise. In the United States, 2,532 books were banned in 2021/22, the majority of which explore LGBTQ2S+ issues or have a protagonist who is a person of colour. Books that weren't political are suddenly cast as such. Librarians and teachers face losing their careers for sharing stories about a fair, more diverse world. What's to be done about this expanding crisis of censorship? Could the same thing happen in Canada... or is it already? **Marsha Lederman** speaks with **Jen Ferguson** (*Those Pink Mountain Nights*), **Casey Plett** (*A Safe Girl to Love*), and **Aden Polydoros** (*Wrath Becomes Her*); three writers whose works remind us that human rights should be non-negotiable, in literature and beyond. *Moderated by Marsha Lederman.*

Presented thanks to the generous support of the Al Roadburg Foundation.

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ARTS UMBRELLA

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20 | 1:00 PM | \$25 

**Blending Genres: VMI Betsy Warland
*Between Genres Award***

EVENT NUMBER

54

WT WATERFRONT THEATRE

Each of these authors combine the unexpected—either writing in many genres across works, or blending multiple genres in one book. The result, in every case, is a work as fascinating for its form as for its story. We delve into these kaleidoscopic offerings before a ceremony for the **VMI Betsy Warland Between Genres Award**. **Helen Cova** (*Autosarcophagy - To Eat Oneself*) blends personal history and present-day experiences into a seamless yet complex fabric of short story narrative. **Jason Guriel's** *The Full-Moon Whaling Chronicles* is a mashup of dystopian fiction, poetry, cyberpunk... and more. **Daniel Innes** and **Christina Wong** use illustration and fiction in *Denison Avenue*, a work about gentrification, aging, and grief. Celebrate craft with these talents. Hosted by *Elee Kraljii Gardiner*.

Presented in partnership with SFU Creative Writing.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20 | 1:00 PM | \$25 

**AI, Quantum Physics and
Simplifying the Unknown:
*In Conversation with Jérémie Harris***

EVENT NUMBER

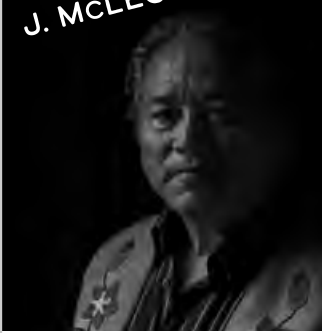
55

N THE NEST


Whether you think it's a risk to humanity, a technological breakthrough for healthcare and beyond, or a confusing jumble of jargon, one thing's for sure: Artificial Intelligence is here to stay. Physicist, AI risk expert, and international AI security consultant **Jérémie Harris** joins us to discuss the phenomenon and his new book, *Quantum Physics Made Me Do It: A Simple Guide to the Fundamental Nature of Everything*. He'll speak to the magnificent world of quantum physics and all the things it enables us to do—even when we don't quite understand it—and what we need to know about how computers are evolving. Accessible, engaging, and ever so relevant, this will be expansive... just like our universe. Moderated by *André Picard*.

**PHENOMENAL
FESTIVAL
AUTHORS**

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J. MCLEOD**




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author of the upcoming novel,
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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20 | 1:00 PM | \$25

Carving Space EVENT NUMBER
56

THE REVUE STAGE

To celebrate the fifth anniversary of the Indigenous Voices Awards, *Carving Space* shares works of its finalists over the past five years, edited by Jordan Abel, Carleigh Baker, and Madeleine Reddon. We welcome **Carleigh Baker** and three contributors to the anthology, and former finalists of the Awards: **Nathan Adler**, **Troy Sebastian**, and **jaye simpson**. They'll share readings from their works and discuss the emerging luminaries they admire, what it's felt like to have their own writing careers burgeon, and the exceptional breadth and depth in modern Indigenous writing. *Moderated by Carleigh Baker.*

Presented in partnership with SFU Library.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20 | 6:00 PM | \$25

Women Talking EVENT NUMBER
57

WATERFRONT THEATRE

These literary works may delve into very different circumstances, but at the heart of each are women protagonists navigating complexity to build their own futures in bold and sweeping narratives. **Claudia Dey's** hypnotic tour de force, *Daughter*, follows a woman caught in her charismatic, womanizing father's web, starving to make a life—and art—of her own. **Emma Hooper** asks questions of human nature, connection, and hope in *We Should Not Be Afraid of the Sky*, following five girls—who call themselves sisters—abducted by Roman soldiers. **Zalika Reid-Benta** probes the vital importance of ancestral ties in her exhilarating magical realist novel about a millennial Black woman embarking on a quest through Toronto in *River Mumma*. *Moderated by Jasmine Sealy.*

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20 | 6:00 PM | \$25 

Suzette Mayr *in Conversation*

EVENT NUMBER

58

N THE NEST

An Oprah pick, a Giller Prize-winner, and on just about every eligible prize shortlist or Best of the Year list, **Suzette Mayr's** *The Sleeping Car Porter* was one of the biggest literary sensations of recent years. It brings to life an important part of Black history in North America, from the perspective of a queer man living in a culture that renders him invisible in two ways. Affecting, imaginative, and visceral enough that we feel the rocking of the train, we are drawn into Baxter's life in which he must navigate the perils of white passengers, ghosts, and his secret love affair. The novelist shares with us the journey of writing her sixth novel, why her fiction is so richly imaginative and diverse in theme and focus, and why she thinks so many, across the continent, fell in love with Baxter the porter. *Moderated by Jael Richardson.*

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20 | 6:00 PM | \$25 

Latin Expressions *in Three Conversations*

EVENT NUMBER

59

RS THE REVUE STAGE

Celebrating international authors and discovering writers from different cultures is one of the many highlights of the Festival, and this year we delve into works from Latin American writers. Each offers fascinating, heady insight into the lives of women. **Carmen Boulosa** is one of Mexico's leading novelists, poets, and playwrights. *The Book of Eve* tells the story of the original woman—and the fall of man—from her perspective. **Helen Cova** was born and raised in Venezuela and now resides in Iceland. *Autosarcophagy - To Eat Oneself* fearlessly delves into subjects such as child mistreatment, motherhood, and anxiety in precise short stories. **Beatriz Hausner**, who, as a teenager, moved to Canada from Chile, reawakens the legacy of a fourth-century Byzantine mathematician and philosopher who, against convention, is also a woman in *She Who Lies Above*. *Moderated by Carmen Rodríguez.*

Presented in partnership with the Vancouver Latin American Cultural Centre Society.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20 | 8:00 PM | \$25 

The Poetry *Bash*

EVENT NUMBER

60

PW PERFORMANCE WORKS

Entrancing, surprising, and memorable: The Poetry Bash is a gateway to discovering new-to-you poets or hearing your favourites. This year's poets include: **Victoria Adukwei Bulley**, a British poet exploring the importance of *Quiet* in producing forms of community, resistance, and love; **Lorna Crozier**, who shares the grief from the passing of her partner of 40 years, Patrick Lane, in *After That*; **Patrick Friesen**, whose *Reckoning* is a master poet taking stock in later years; **Susan Musgrave**, whose heartrending *Exculpatory Lilies* explores marriage, family, and addiction; **Michael V. Smith** celebrating growing up queer and working class in *Queers Like Me*; and **Matthew James Weigel**, who explores connection to land and the ongoing effects of colonialism in the genre-bending and stunning *Whitemud Walking*. *Hosted by Jen Currin.*

Presented in partnership with KPU Creative Writing.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20 | 8:30 PM | \$25 

Lauren Groff *in Conversation*

EVENT NUMBER

61

WT WATERFRONT THEATRE

Speaking about her multi-award winning novel, *Matrix*, **Lauren Groff's** visit to the 2021 Festival was electric, humorous, and insightful. All the more reason to be excited by this intimate event with the three-time National Book Award finalist and *New York Times* bestseller discussing her latest book, *The Vaster Wilds*. Here is a work of raw and prophetic power. A servant girl escapes from a colonial settlement in the wilderness with nothing but a few possessions and her faith. Her story is both a thrilling adventure and a question of how to find a new way of living within the churn of colonialism. It asks, ultimately, how—and if—we can adapt quickly enough to save ourselves. Lauren Groff is one of the greatest American writers working today. Join us for this exclusive conversation. *Moderated by Alix Ohlin.*

ON ISLAND VENUE LEGEND:



THE REVUE STAGE



WATERFRONT THEATRE



THE NEST



PERFORMANCE WORKS



GRANVILLE ISLAND STAGE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

TIME	#	EVENT	VENUE
7:30 PM	-	SPECIAL EVENT: Zadie Smith in Conversation with Madeleine Thien	CPA

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3

TIME	#	EVENT	VENUE
7:30 PM	-	SPECIAL EVENT: Brent Butt in Conversation with Charles Demers	HT

MONDAY, OCTOBER 16

TIME	#	EVENT	VENUE
7:30 PM	1	Between The Pages: An Evening with the Scotiabank Giller Prize Finalists	PT ASL

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17

TIME	#	EVENT	VENUE
10:15 AM	2	Cherie Dimaline in Conversation	GS
10:15 AM	3	A Morning with Jon Klassen	WT
10:15 AM	4	Masterclass: The Best Way to Get Your Way	N
10:15 AM	5	Finding Your Way	RS
1:00 PM	6	Word! (1)	GS
1:00 PM	7	Picture Book Storytime	WT
1:00 PM	8	Masterclass: Maybe a Whale	N
1:00 PM	9	Spooky Stories	RS
6:00 PM	10	Ian Ferguson & Will Ferguson in Conversation	WT
6:00 PM	11	The Storm Inside Us	N
6:00 PM	12	Marvelous Meta-Fiction	RS
7:30 PM	13	The Alma Lee Opening Night Event: Page-Turning Thrills	GS
8:30 PM	14	Roaming	WT
8:30 PM	15	Patrick deWitt in Conversation	N
8:30 PM	16	Inheriting Truth	RS

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18

TIME	#	EVENT	VENUE
10:15 AM	17	Word! (2)	GS
10:15 AM	18	Shadows, Wrath, and Haunting Writing	PW
10:15 AM	19	Storytime	WT
10:15 AM	20	Masterclass with Tui T. Sutherland	N
1:00 PM	21	Rise Up!	GS
1:00 PM	22	Burt the Beetle with Ashley Spires	PW
1:00 PM	23	The Strength of Owls, Turtles... and Kids	WT
1:00 PM	24	Masterclass with Sarah Suk	N
1:00 PM	25	Bestselling Teen Fiction for a Reason	RS
6:00 PM	26	The Strength of Storytelling	PW
6:00 PM	27	Night Class - A Workshop with UBC School of Creative Writing	WT
6:00 PM	28	On Being Human (or not): Exceptional Short Stories	N
6:00 PM	29	The Company We Keep	RS
8:30 PM	30	She's A Scream	PW
8:30 PM	31	Blackness as a Portal, Blackness as the Frame	WT
8:30 PM	32	Anne Berest in Conversation with Marsha Lederman	N
8:30 PM	33	Season of the Witch	RS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19

TIME	#	EVENT	VENUE
10:15 AM	34	Good Reads for YA	PW
10:15 AM	35	Adventures in the Pacific Northwest	WT
10:15 AM	36	Masterclass with Elamin Abdelmehmoud	N
10:15 AM	37	Good Reads for Middle Grade	RS
1:00 PM	38	Using Pop Culture	PW

1:00 PM	39	Wings of Fire: Tui T. Sutherland in Conversation	WT	
1:00 PM	40	Masterclass with Ben Clanton	N	
1:00 PM	41	Fantastical Fantasy	RS	
6:00 PM	42	It Stops Here: Rueben George in Conversation	WT	
6:00 PM	43	Mona Awad in Conversation	N	
6:00 PM	44	Rewriting History	RS	
7:30 PM	45	Celeste Ng in Conversation	GS	ASL
8:00 PM	46	Smells Like... 90s Lyrics Night	PW	
8:30 PM	47	Cli-Fi: Fiction for our Times	WT	
8:30 PM	48	The Best of History	RS	ASL
9:30 PM	49	90s Dance Party	PW	

10:30 AM	65	Chinatown: Past and Future	PW	ASL
10:30 AM	66	Fest Talks on Field Notes	WT	
10:30 AM	67	Good Reads	RS	
1:30 PM	68	Novel Ideas: Conversations with Michael Crummey, Emma Donoghue, and Elizabeth Hay	GS	
1:30 PM	69	Short Stories Continued	WT	
1:30 PM	70	Poets in Conversation	N	
1:30 PM	71	Crime Time	RS	
5:00 PM	72	Michelle Good in Conversation	WT	
5:00 PM	73	Silvia Moreno-Garcia in Conversation	N	
5:00 PM	74	Poets on Family and Time	RS	
7:30 PM	75	Doppelganger: Naomi Klein	CPA	
8:00 PM	76	The Literary Cabaret	PW	
8:00 PM	77	Gripping Domestic Thrillers	WT	
8:00 PM	78	Christina Sharpe in Conversation	N	

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20

TIME	#	EVENT	VENUE	
10:00 AM	50	On the Edge	PW	
10:00 AM	51	Memoirs of Belonging	WT	
10:00 AM	52	Debut Fiction	RS	
1:00 PM	53	Book Banning in a Precarious Age	PW	ASL
1:00 PM	54	Blending Genres	WT	
1:00 PM	55	AI, Quantum Physics and Simplifying the Unknown: In Conversation with Jérémie Harris	N	
1:00 PM	56	Carving Space	RS	
6:00 PM	57	Women Talking	WT	
6:00 PM	58	Suzette Mayr in Conversation	N	
6:00 PM	59	Latin Expressions in Three Conversations	RS	
8:00 PM	60	The Poetry Bash	PW	
8:30 PM	61	Lauren Groff in Conversation	WT	
8:30 PM	62	Freeman's Conclusions	N	
8:30 PM	63	Landbridge	RS	

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21

TIME	#	EVENT	VENUE
10:30 AM	64	Rebecca Solnit in Conversation	GS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22

TIME	#	EVENT	VENUE	
11:00 AM	79	Food for Thought	PW	ASL
11:00 AM	80	The Conversations: Jenny Erpenbeck, Ayelet Gundar-Goshen, Elaine Feeny	WT	
11:00 AM	81	Pulse-Racing Thrillers	RS	
1:30 PM	82	Emerge	N	
1:30 PM	83	Pictures on the Wall: The Power of Art	RS	
4:00 PM	84	The Afternoon Tea	PW	
7:30 PM	85	Not Too Late: The Climate Conversation	GS	

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18

TIME	#	EVENT	VENUE
7:30 PM	-	Canadian Dream Team: Rick Mercer and Jann Arden	CPA

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1

7:30 PM	-	Kent Monkman and Gisèle Gordon in Conversation	PT
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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20 | 8:30 PM | \$25

Freeman's *Conclusions*

EVENT NUMBER

62

N THE NEST

Sometimes desperately sought, sometimes heartbreakingly found, always inevitable, conclusions in our lives are as varied as they are omnipresent. From the end of life or relationships, to finding answers about why we're on this planet, **John Freeman's** latest anthology explores *Conclusions* in all their forms. This year, the tables turn and the editor will be interviewed about this latest release in the series, by issue contributor, friend, and award-winning author and journalist **Omar El Akkad** (*American War, What Strange Paradise*). They'll be joined by lauded novelist and *Conclusions* contributor **Tania James** (*Loot*), to delve into world endings in life and literature. *Freeman's* is a highlight on the Writers Fest calendar for our regulars; always thought-provoking, exquisitely literary, and deeply human. *Hosted by Omar El Akkad.*

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20 | 8:30 PM | \$25

Landbridge

EVENT NUMBER

63

RS THE REVUE STAGE

Author and English Professor **Y-Dang Troeung** and her family were among the last of the 60,000 refugees from Cambodia that then-Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau pledged to relocate to Canada. Forty years later, in her brilliant book *Landbridge*, Y-Dang returns to this moment, and to many others before and after, to explore the tension between that public narrative of happy "arrival," and the multiple, often hidden truths of what happened to the people in her family. Y-Dang passed away in 2022 after completing this exceptional work. Four revered writers, friends, and colleagues of the author and academic celebrate her work and share more about her life. Join **Dionne Brand, David Chariandy, Madeleine Thien, and Christopher B. Patterson** for an immersive tribute to this writer and an introduction to a new classic that demands to be read. *Moderated by Doretta Lau.*

Presented thanks to the support of Penguin Random House.

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21 | 10:30 AM | \$25 **Rebecca Solnit**
in Conversation

EVENT NUMBER

64

GS GRANVILLE ISLAND STAGE

“The voice of the resistance” is just another accolade that public intellectual, feminist, multi-award winning writer, environmentalist, and human rights activist **Rebecca Solnit** can add to her global recognition. The author of such works as *Men Explain Things to Me*, *Orwell's Roses*, and *Wanderlust* joins us with her latest book, the anthology *Not Too Late: Changing the Climate Story from Despair to Possibility*. In this intimate interview, she speaks to her lifelong work as an activist and feminist, and the barriers we face to progress—and how there’s still so much room, and need, for hope. This is an opportunity to hear from one of the greatest thinkers of our generation. *Moderated by Kathryn Gretsinger.*

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21 | 10:30 AM | \$25 **Chinatown:**
Past and Future

EVENT NUMBER

65

PW PERFORMANCE WORKS

CC ASL PROVIDED

In this important, prescient event, writers, and artists explore what it means to be Chinese in North America. They explore threats to Chinese North American heritage, community, and wellbeing including spreading gentrification across Vancouver, Toronto, and San Francisco, home to the largest Chinese diasporic populations in the West. They also offer a vividly accessible way to celebrate the sustained vibrance of these communities. Don’t miss this conversation with **Daniel Innes** and **Christina Wong** (*Denison Avenue*), **Fae Myenne Ng** (*Orphan Bachelors*), and **Henry Tsang** (*White Riot*). *Moderated by Kevin Chong.*

Presented in partnership with Chinatown Storytelling Centre.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21 | 10:30 AM | \$25 **Fest Talks on**
Field Notes

EVENT NUMBER

66

WT WATERFRONT THEATRE

Field Notes from Biblioasis are slim, pocket-sized books with insightful forays into topics of importance. They’re as brilliant as they are concise. Four authors of recent *Field Notes* will each speak to the subject of their book and passion. We hear from Toronto Star Books Editor **Deborah Dundas** (*On Class*) on why we don’t talk about poverty or class—and what will happen when we do; **Jason Guriel** (*On Browsing*), in defence of the dying art of losing an afternoon—and gaining new appreciation—amidst shelves of bricks-and-mortar shops; **Stephen Marche** on the topic close to our hearts, *On Writing and Failure*; and **Casey Plett** (*On Community*)—what it looks like, and why it sometimes feels like it’s slipping away. *Hosted by Bill Richardson.*

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21 | 10:30 AM | \$25 **Good Reads**

EVENT NUMBER

67

RS THE REVUE STAGE

The premise of our Good Reads event each year is simple: hear from three authors of must-read, unputdownable books. **Claudia Dey** uses penetrating insight and devilish humour in *Daughter*: a blazing examination of the forces that drive us to become... and to break free. From breaking free to *Breaking and Entering*, **Don Gillmor’s** utterly compelling novel pokes at upper-middle class intelligentsia via the dissatisfied protagonist who gets an unexpected itch for crime. **Emi Sasagawa’s** celebrated debut, *Atomweight*, speaks to competing cultures, traditions, and values in a bold and gripping tale. Make space in your evening and your bookshelf for these buzzworthy books. *Moderated by Caroline Adderson.*

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21 | 1:30 PM | \$25

Novel Ideas: Conversations with *Michael Crummey, Emma Donoghue, and Elizabeth Hay*

EVENT NUMBER

68

GS GRANVILLE ISLAND STAGE

Three of the best loved names in CanLit sit down with longtime friend of the Festival, **Marsha Lederman**, to discuss their latest works. **Michael Crummey**, the multi-award winning, bestselling author, joins us with *The Adversary*: a dark, enthralling novel about the corruption of power and the power of corruption. **Emma Donoghue** captivates readers with every book. Her gorgeous novel, *Learned by Heart*, is based on the true story of two girls who fall secretly in love at boarding school in nineteenth-century York. Giller Prize-winner **Elizabeth Hay**'s new *Snow Road Station* is a poignant exploration of thwarted ambition, unrealized dreams, and love's capacity to surprise us at any age. *Moderated by Marsha Lederman.*

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21 | 1:30 PM | \$25

Short Stories *Continued*

EVENT NUMBER

69

WT WATERFRONT THEATRE

GUEST CURATOR

That tiny detail which holds insight into the most expansive of experiences; the crisp focus of an event that unfurls across time: despite their spare canvases, short stories are often profound. This is certainly the case for these three, deeply creative collections. **Jamaluddin Aram**'s *Nothing Good Happens in Wazirabad on Wednesday* shares the colourful lives of people in a small town in 1990s Afghanistan through a novel constructed with interwoven short stories. Two-time Lambda Literary Award winner **Casey Plett** returns with a new edition of her acclaimed debut story collection, *A Safe Girl to Love*. Canada Reads-shortlisted **Lindsay Wong** returns to our stages with a darkly hilarious, and poignant collection of immigrant horror stories, *Tell Me Pleasant Things about Immortality*. *Moderated by Shirarose Wilensky.*



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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21 | 1:30 PM | \$25

Poets in Conversation

EVENT NUMBER

70

THE NEST

Intellectual, versatile, and brilliant: these three writers' works are perfect examples of how poetry can expand our consciousness. **Victoria Adukwé Bulley** makes her thrilling debut in North America. Bernadine Evaristo praised *Quiet* as "perfectly embody[ing] the political through the personal." **Patrick Friesen** has published more than a dozen books of poetry. *Reckoning* is one long poem in search of itself. Poet and professor **Joanne Leow's** debut, *seas move away*, seeks answers to the question of what is lost in intensive urban development and the journey across continents. And **Matthew James Weigel's** debut *Whitemud Walking* has won multiple awards for its original, transcendent Indigenous resistance historiography through poetry. Moderated by *Molly Cross-Blanchard*.

Presented in collaboration with Poetry in Voice.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21 | 1:30 PM | \$25

Crime Time

EVENT NUMBER

71

THE REVUE STAGE

Why are we so drawn to stories of crime? What makes us tune into such a vast array of true-crime shows, or pick up a book that begins with murder? And is it harmless entertainment, or something more sinister? Three authors of crime novels or works about the impact of crime explore why we love the dastardly: **Michael Melgaard's** *Not That Kind of Place* is a literary anti-mystery and a compelling exploration of our obsession with true-crime stories. **Liz Nugent** is an international crime writing sensation, whose *Strange Sally Diamond* moves into the thriller genre. And **Sam Wiebe's** *Sunset and Jericho* novel, the fourth in The Wakeland Novels series, reveals the underbelly of Vancouver too-often ignored. Don't miss this invigorating conversation. Moderated by *André Picard*.

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21 | 5:00 PM | \$25 

Michelle Good *in Conversation*

EVENT NUMBER

72

WT WATERFRONT THEATRE

Michelle Good has moved and inspired millions of people with *Five Little Indians*, which chronicles the desperate quest of a group of residential school survivors to come to terms with their past and find a way forward. The novel won Canada Reads, a Governor General's Literary Award, an Amazon First Novel Award, a Kobo Emerging Author Prize, and was a Giller finalist (and the list continues). She joins us to speak about her new non-fiction work, *Truth Telling*, continuing her essential messages through essays exploring the historical and contemporary Indigenous experience in Canada. She speaks to ways we can acknowledge the past and understand the way forward; a national conversation we must continue—and loudly—in months and years to come. *Moderated by Carleigh Baker.*

Presented in partnership with Talking Stick Festival.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21 | 5:00 PM | \$25 

Silvia Moreno-Garcia *in Conversation*

EVENT NUMBER

73

N THE NEST

Silvia Moreno-Garcia is prolific. The award-winning, *New York Times* bestselling author produces highly-original works across genres and worlds. Her latest, *Silver Nitrate*, is a fabulous meld of Mexican horror movies and Nazi occultism: a dark thriller about the curse that haunts a legendary lost film—and awakens one woman's hidden powers. Perfect for fans of the big screen, horror or the combination of the two, the book suggests that sorcerers and magic may not only be the stuff of movies. We're thrilled to welcome this singular author to talk about her body of work and most recent foray into the world of motion pictures. *Moderated by Robert J. Wiersema.*

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21 | 5:00 PM | \$25 

Poets on *Family and Time*

EVENT NUMBER

74

RS THE REVUE STAGE

Lorna Crozier (*After That*) and **Susan Musgrave** (*Exculpatory Lilies*) are two of the most celebrated poets in Canada. More than this, there is a warmth to anyone sharing their name or talking about their work; a recognition of the impact of both writers in the literary world and poetry community for more than four decades. In conversation with former Artistic Director of the Festival, **Hal Wake**, they speak to their latest collections—both deeply moving and bravely revealing explorations of love, deep connections to family, and the process of grieving when they are lost. This promises to be a conversation as gentle as it is intellectually rigorous with people who truly understand how poetry can help to move us through the hardest periods of life. *Moderated by Hal Wake.*

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21 | 7:30 PM | \$35 

Doppelganger: *Naomi Klein*

EVENT NUMBER

75

CPA CHAN CENTRE FOR PERFORMING ARTS

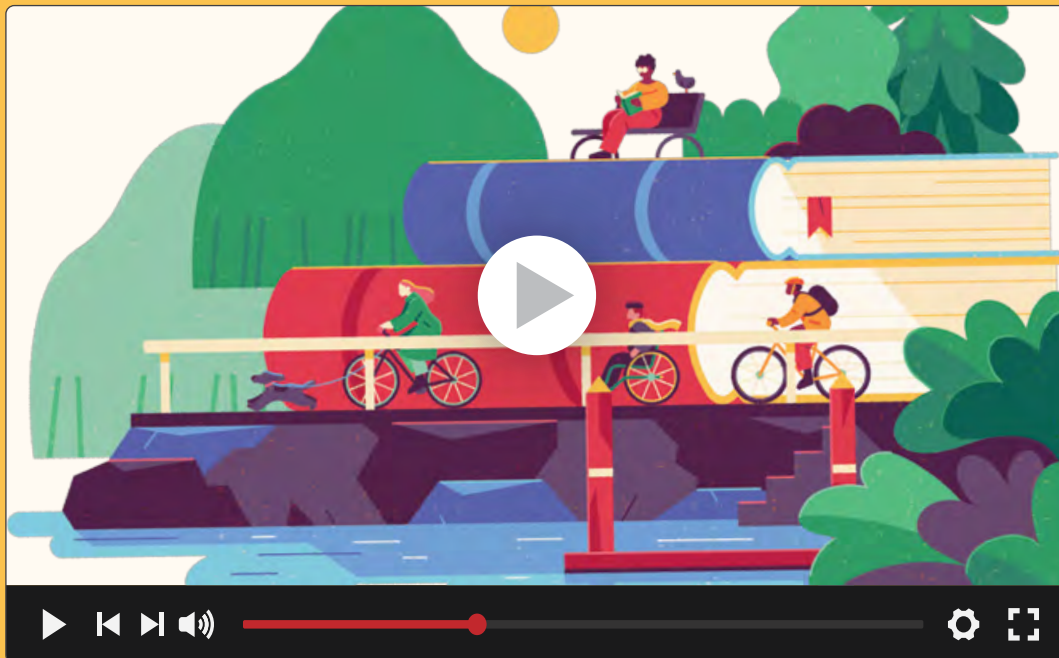
Naomi Klein's new book, *Doppelganger: A Trip into the Mirror World*, takes a more personal turn, braiding elements of tragi-comic memoir, chilling political reportage, and cobweb-clearing cultural analysis. She delves into what she calls the Mirror World—our destabilized present rife with doubles and confusion, where far-right movements playact solidarity with the working class, AI-generated content blurs the line between genuine and spurious, and so many of us project our own carefully curated digital doubles into the social media sphere. We all feel the need to chart a path beyond confusion and despair. Klein delivers a revelatory treatment of the way many of us now think and feel, and shares it with us in *Doppelganger*. *Moderated by Jarrett Martineau.*

Presented in partnership with UBC Centre for Climate Justice and the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts.

2023 Festival *Digital Release*

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Sign up to our newsletter to be the first to learn about this special encore release, featuring an exciting selection of events from this year's October Festival.



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21 | 8:00 PM | \$50

The Literary Cabaret

EVENT NUMBER

76

PW PERFORMANCE WORKS

It's a formula that never fails: combine six acclaimed and award-winning authors with one band and a table of friends for a night of exceptional art and delight. At the helm of our flagship event is new Musical Director, **Benjamin Millman**: a pianist, producer and multi-instrumentalist hailing from Vancouver, whose mission is to pay homage to the great legacy of the Black American and African Diasporic Music he loves. He'll direct *Benjamin Millman and the Oxymorons* as they interpret readings from authors including **Patrick deWitt** (*The Librarianist*), **Jenny Erpenbeck** (*Kairos*), **Elaine Feeney** (*How to Build a Boat*), **Paul Harding** (*This Other Eden*), **Kai Thomas** (*In the Upper Country*), and **Tania James** (*Loot*).

Travel for Jenny Erpenbeck supported by the Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany, Vancouver.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21 | 8:00 PM | \$25

Gripping Domestic Thrillers

EVENT NUMBER

77

WT WATERFRONT THEATRE

These two authors have sold hundreds of thousands of copies in more than 40 countries. Clearly, their subject matter resonates with readers across the globe: that of the psychological terrors found in the most mundane parts of our lives; family dynamics transformed into gripping thrillers. Who knew the faultlines in marriages or communities could be so compelling? These celebrated authors at the top of their genre talk about the mysteries of motherhood and why family dynamics make such good fodder for pulse-racing plots. They'll also share a little about their latest works: **Ashley Audrain's** *The Whispers* and **Ayelet Gundar-Goshen's** *The Wolf Hunt*.

Presented thanks to the generous support of Sam Znaimer in memory of Nancy Richler.



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21 | 8:00 PM | \$25

Christina Sharpe in Conversation

EVENT NUMBER

78

N THE NEST

Christina Sharpe's latest work, *Ordinary Notes*, is a dazzlingly inventive, intellectually bracing exploration of pain and beauty, private memory and public monument, art and complexity in contemporary Black life. It follows a body of work from the writer, Professor, and Canada Research Chair in Black Studies in the Humanities which is groundbreaking and esteemed. Of this recent collection she writes, "I wanted to write about silences and terror and acts that hover over generations, over centuries. I began by writing about my mother and grandmother." She speaks about such silence, the ways to overcome it, and more, with **David Chariandy** in a bold, rigorous, and deeply important discussion.

Presented in partnership with Hogan's Alley Society.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22 | 11:00 AM | \$45

Food for Thought

EVENT NUMBER

79

PW PERFORMANCE WORKS

CC ASL PROVIDED

A revitalized take on our Sunday Brunch, Food for Thought presents six authors exploring topics at the forefront of our minds. **Charlotte Gill** (*Almost Brown*) fearlessly examines the complexities of life within a multicultural household. **J  r  mie Harris** simplifies AI and the universe, in *Quantum Physics Made Me Do It*. **Holly Hogan** is a wildlife biologist who brings a warning of the devastating effect we're having on the ocean in *Message in a Bottle*. In *Races*, **Valerie Jerome** sets the record straight on her heroic family's history and the racism they fought along the way. **Helen Knott** gets straight to the heart of what patriarchy truly means in *Becoming a Matriarch*. And **Stephen Marche** offers pithy, witty guidance on the craft we love in *On Writing and Failure*. Guests will also enjoy a continental breakfast of croissant, fruit and yogurt, tea and coffee, and our signature mimosas. Moderated by Kathryn Gretsinger.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22 | 11:00 AM | \$25

The Conversations: Jenny Erpenbeck, Ayelet Gundar-Goshen, Elaine Feeney

EVENT NUMBER

80

WT WATERFRONT THEATRE

Marsha Lederman will separately interview three of the most talked-about international writers on our roster. **Jenny Erpenbeck** is a powerful voice in contemporary German literature. Her latest work, *Kairos*, tells of a star-crossed love affair in 1980s East Berlin. Irish author **Elaine Feeney** joins us to discuss her latest work, *How to Build a Boat*, heralded as "one of those rare books that leaves you feeling less lonely." **Ayelet Gundar-Goshen** is a clinical psychologist, civil rights activist, and award-winning author based in Israel. Her latest work, *The Wolf Hunt*, is a mesmerizing Jewish thriller about safety and identity. This is an opportunity to be immersed in conversation with women of world repute. Moderated by Marsha Lederman.

Participation of Jenny Erpenbeck made possible thanks to the support of the Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany Vancouver. Participation of Ayelet Gundar-Goshen made possible thanks to the generous support of Sam Znaimer in memory of Nancy Richler.

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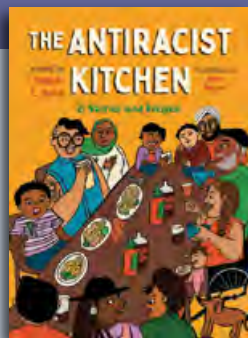


READ LOCAL BC



Stoneface: A Defiant Dene
Stephen Kakfwi

A must-read memoir from the former Premier of the Northwest Territories.
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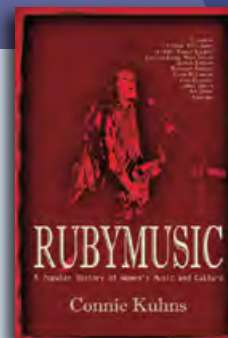
The Antiracist Kitchen: 21 Stories (and Recipes)
Nadia L. Hohn, editor

A collection of stories and recipes about antiracism from 21 authors.
ORCA BOOK PUBLISHERS



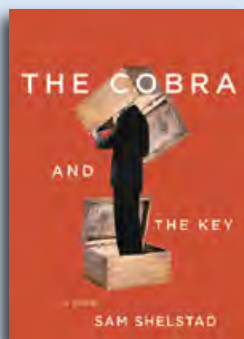
Citizens of Light
Sam Shelstad

A noir anti-thriller that is bleakly madcap, with deadpan dialogue.
BRINDLE & GLASS, AN IMPRINT OF TOUCHWOOD EDITIONS



Rubymusic: A Popular History of Women's Music and Culture
Connie Kuhns

A time capsule of a pivotal moment in women's music history.
CAITLIN PRESS



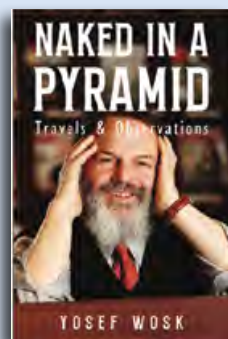
The Cobra and the Key
Sam Shelstad

A brilliantly funny, slightly unhinged creative writing guide.
BRINDLE & GLASS, AN IMPRINT OF TOUCHWOOD EDITIONS



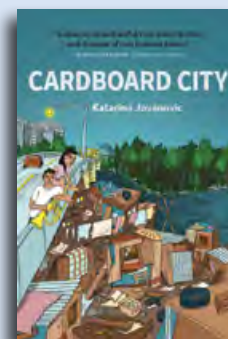
Emi and Mini
Hanako Masutani and Stephane Jorisch

Emi gets a new pet, Mini, a loveable fat hamster.
TRADEWIND BOOKS



Naked in a Pyramid: Travels and Observations
Yosef Wosk

Tales of adventure from a deeply inquiring mind.
ANVIL PRESS



Cardboard City
Katarina Jovanovic

The story of two young Romani teens living in an informal settlement in Belgrade.
TRADEWIND BOOKS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22 | 11:00 AM | \$25

**Pulse-Racing**
Thrillers

EVENT NUMBER

81

RS THE REVUE STAGE

When he's not practicing emergency medicine, **Dr. Daniel Kalla** writes thrillers that take place in the world of pills and prescriptions. *Fit to Die* is no different: a riveting tale about body shaming, toxic diet pills, and a rapidly rising body count. **Robyn Harding** is a Festival audience favourite, and *The Drowning Woman* is just as dark and propulsive as her other works, following a homeless woman fleeing the past. Meanwhile, #1 bestselling author **Amy Stuart** returns with a thrilling tale of suspense and secrets when *A Death at the Party* dredges up the past for its protagonists. Each of these writers uses the everyday to cast tales of mystery and intrigue, showing that all is not what it seems in our complex world. Moderated by **Robert J. Wiersema**.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22 | 1:30 PM | FREE

**Emerge**

EVENT NUMBER

82

N THE NEST

Join us at this free event to celebrate the latest work from The Writer's Studio at Simon Fraser University: *emerge 23: The Writer's Studio Anthology*. Hear a taste of work from those who have participated in the illustrious studio this year, and insights from the writers who mentored them along the way. Find out more about the practices that fuel creative work, and see the results of those practices in the form of new work from exciting emerging voices. It's an immersive celebration of new talent and established community.

Presented in partnership with SFU Creative Writing.

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22 | 1:30 PM | \$25 

Pictures on the Wall: *The Power of Art*

EVENT NUMBER

83

RS THE REVUE STAGE

A generous and dedicated patron of the arts, **Michael Audain** is also one of Canada's most notable collectors. At this Vancouver launch of his memoir, *Pictures on the Wall: Building a Canadian Art Collection*, he tells the story of his inspiration and his assemblage. He then joins **Jeannie Marshall** (*All Things Move*), lauded for depicting "personal experience in the face of great art and especially the right to have [such] personal experience," and **Max Wyman** (*The Compassionate Imagination*), one of Canada's foremost cultural commentators, who asks us to use creative imagination in our response to great social challenges. Together, they discuss the role art can play in our personal and public lives, and the joys of paying a little more attention to the beauty surrounding us. *Moderated by Sirish Rao.*

Presented in partnership with the Vancouver Art Gallery.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22 | 7:30 PM | \$25 

Not Too Late: *The Climate Conversation*

EVENT NUMBER

85

GS GRANVILLE ISLAND STAGE

It's at the forefront of our minds and an issue that effects us all. What can we do to truly engage with this pivotal moment for humankind and our planet? Three of the most revered contemporary non-fiction writers speak about the climate crisis... and what comes next. Acclaimed public intellectual **Rebecca Solnit** most recently co-edited *Not Too Late: Changing the Climate Story from Despair to Possibility*. **Chris Turner's** *How to Be a Climate Optimist* won the Shaughnessy Cohen Prize for Political Writing and offers a "blueprint for a better world." Meanwhile, **John Vaillant's** *Fire Weather* is a must-read of 2023 and beyond, unflinching in its exploration of our rapidly changing relationship with fire. Whether you feel stuck in a cycle of despair and helplessness, or are actively fighting against the crisis and need a recharge of hope, this is an essential conversation for all. *Moderated by Matt Galloway, host of CBC's The Current.*

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22 | 4:00 PM | \$55 

The Afternoon Tea

EVENT NUMBER

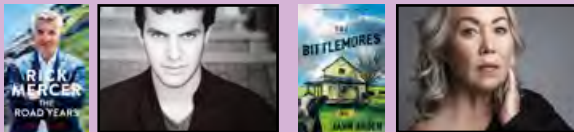
84

PW PERFORMANCE WORKS

The Afternoon Tea is always special: a chance to immerse in readings from a lineup of bestselling, award-winning and celebrated authors while savouring a high tea selection of treats with friends. This year, we present **Jamaluddin Aram** (*Nothing Good Happens in Wazirabad on Wednesday*), **Carmen Boullosa** (*The Book of Eve*), **Michael Crumme** (*The Adversary*), **Elizabeth Hay** (*Snow Road Station*), **Emma Hooper** (*We Should Not Be Afraid of the Sky*), **Darrel J. McLeod** (*A Season in Chezhgh'un*). *Hosted by Bill Richardson.*

Generously sponsored by the Faris Family in memory of Yulanda Faris.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18 | 7:30 PM | \$80



Canadian Dream Team: *Rick Mercer and Jann Arden*

Presented in partnership with Scotia Wealth Management and the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts.

For years, viewers across the country tuned into the *The Rick Mercer Report* to spend their evenings with **Rick Mercer** and **Jann Arden**, one of his favourite recurring guests. Rick and Jann will reunite to toast each other on the publication of each of their new books: Mercer, with *The Road Years: A Memoir, Continued...*, and Arden, with her debut novel, *The Bittlemores*.

Their friendship has taken them 1,168 feet above the ground atop the CN Tower EdgeWalk; ziplining at Canada Olympic Park; and bull-riding at a Calgarian rodeo—all with an amused audience watching. Their mutual adoration is rivaled only by their legendary banter, and there will be plenty of both in this entertaining conversation.

Tickets to this extra special event include a copy of both *The Road Years* AND *The Bittlemores*! What a rare opportunity to pick up signed copies of both books, and hear these two friends in conversation once again.

RICK MERCER is Canada's sharpest and funniest political satirist. He co-created and was a resident performer on CBC's *This Hour Has 22 Minutes*, and was the host of *The Rick Mercer Report* for fifteen seasons. His many honours include 21 Geminis and the Governor General's Performing Arts Award. (ONTARIO/NEWFOUNDLAND)

JANN ARDEN is a singer, songwriter, broadcaster, actor, and author. She has written four books, including the Canadian bestseller *If I Knew Then: Finding wisdom in failure and power in aging*. In 2020 she was inducted into the Canadian Music Hall of Fame. She stars in her own hit TV sitcom, *Jann*. (ALBERTA)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1 | 7:30 PM | \$35



Kent Monkman and *Gisèle Gordon in Conversation*

Presented in partnership with The Vancouver Art Gallery.

Here is an unmissable event for art enthusiasts, historians, and all who live on Turtle Island. Celebrated Cree artist **Kent Monkman** and his long-time collaborator **Gisèle Gordon**, join the Vancouver Writers Fest with *The Memoirs of Miss Chief Eagle Testickle: A True and Exact Accounting of the History of Turtle Island*—a genre-defying work that will remake readers' understanding of the land called North America.

The two-volume *Memoirs of Miss Chief Eagle Testickle* follows Miss Chief as she moves through time. Blending history, fiction, and memoir, this is a deeply Cree and gloriously queer understanding of our world. Monkman and Gordon join beloved Canadian broadcaster **Shelagh Rogers** for a conversation about Indigenous resilience; reshaping our shared understanding; and lighting the path ahead.

Books will be for sale at the event courtesy of Iron Dog Books.

KENT MONKMAN is an interdisciplinary Cree visual artist. A member of Fisher River Cree Nation in Treaty 5 Territory, he lives and works in Dish With One Spoon Territory. His works are held in institutions such as the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Hirshhorn Museum, and National Gallery of Canada. (MANITOBA/ONTARIO)

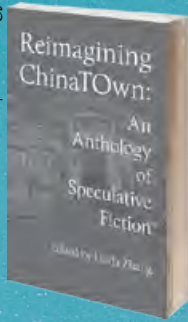
GISÈLE GORDON is a settler media artist and writer based in Dish With One Spoon Territory (Toronto, Canada). Her work includes the documentary *The Tunguska Project* (Best Feature Length Film at the Planet in Focus Film Festival, 2005), the video installations *Crosscurrent*, and *The Land that Dreams*. (ONTARIO)

REBEL MOUNTAIN | YA



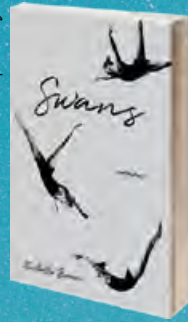
High-action adventure, survival camp, and a friend turned bully.

MAWENZI HOUSE | Anthology



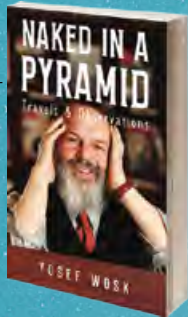
Ten stories by Chinese young people describe Chinatowns of past, present, and future.

PALIMPSEST PRESS | Poetry



...a whip-smart collection from one of Canada's catchiest lyric poets.

ANVIL PRESS | Memoir



Original and unconventional explorations in psychogeography.

BARAKA BOOKS | Memoir



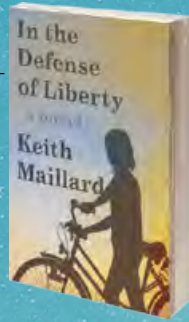
"...vivid and moving..."
—Laura Patterson,
The Miramichi Reader

ANNICK PRESS | Kids



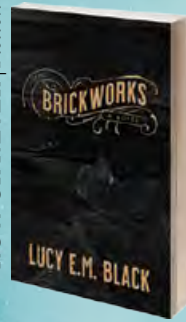
Danny Ramadan's new early chapter book series!

FREEHAND BOOKS | Fiction



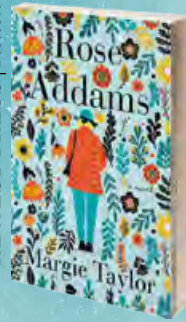
"Fast-paced and intimate, personal and political, queer and beautiful..."
—Carrie Jenkins

NOW OR NEVER | Fiction



"Immersive and masterfully written."
—Holley Ghadery

NEWEST PRESS | Fiction



Rose hit her sixties, but they're hitting back...

CAITLIN PRESS | Memoir



"[A] powerful story of a Survivor ... and Premier."
—Wab Kinew

BREAKWATER BOOKS | Art



International, award-winning photos from new Canadian Ting Ting Chen.

BAYEUX ARTS | Nonfiction



A riveting memoir from anthropologist and Sunshine Coast resident Michael Robinson.

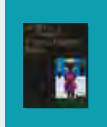
worlds of literature

published by members of the literary press group of canada | allitup.ca

VICTORIA ADUKWEI BULLEY QUIET

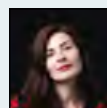


VICTORIA ADUKWEI BULLEY is a poet, a writer, and an artist. An alumna of the Barbican Young Poets, she has held residencies in the United States, Brazil, and London. She is the recipient of a Techne scholarship for doctoral research at Royal Holloway, University of London. (ENGLAND)

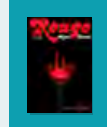


EVENTS: [60 | PAGE 41](#) [70 | PAGE 47](#)

MONA AWAD ROUGE



MONA AWAD is the author of *Bunny*, named a Best Book of 2019 by *Time*, *Vogue*, and the New York Public Library. Her first novel, *13 Ways of Looking at a Fat Girl*, was a finalist for the Scotiabank Giller Prize. *Rouge* is optioned for film by Fremantle and Sinestra. (USA)

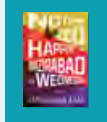


EVENTS: [30 | PAGE 26](#) [43 | PAGE 32](#) [46 | PAGE 34](#)

JAMALUDDIN ARAM NOTHING GOOD HAPPENS IN WAZIRABAD ON WEDNESDAY



JAMALUDDIN ARAM is a documentary filmmaker, producer, and writer from Kabul, Afghanistan. Jamaluddin's short story "This Hard Easy Life" was a finalist for RBC Bronwen Wallace Award for Emerging Writers in 2020. He was mentored by Michael Christie for the Writers' Trust of Canada Mentorship program. (ONTARIO)



EVENTS: [69 | PAGE 46](#) [84 | PAGE 54](#)

CARLEIGH BAKER CARVING SPACE



CARLEIGH BAKER is an nēhiyaw âpihtawikosisân/Icelandic writer who lives as a guest on the unceded territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm, Skwxwu7mesh, and səliłwəta peoples. Her debut story collection *Bad Endings* won the City of Vancouver Book Award, and was a finalist for numerous other awards. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)

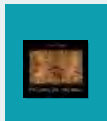


EVENTS: [56 | PAGE 40](#)

MICHAEL AUDAIN PICTURES ON THE WALL



MICHAEL AUDAIN is the founder and chairman of Polygon Homes Ltd., an officer of the Order of Canada, and a member of the Order of British Columbia. A visionary and renowned art collector, he is the past chair of the National Gallery of Canada, the Vancouver Art Gallery, and founder of the Audain Art Museum. He lives with his wife Yoshiko Karasawa in Vancouver. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)



EVENTS: [83 | PAGE 54](#)

ALAN BARILLARO WHERE THE WATER TAKES US



ALAN BARILLARO is the Academy Award–winning writer and director of the animated short film *Piper*, and has been supervising animator on many other popular theatrical releases, including *The Incredibles*, *WALL-E*, and *Brave*. He spent more than twenty-five years at Pixar Animation Studios. (USA/BRITISH COLUMBIA)

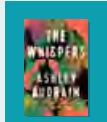


EVENTS: [05 | PAGE 14](#)

ASHLEY AUDRAIN THE WHISPERS



ASHLEY AUDRAIN's debut novel, *The Push*, was a *New York Times*, *Sunday Times* (UK), and #1 international bestseller. A limited television series is currently in development. Audrain previously worked as the publicity director of Penguin Books Canada. *The Whispers* is her second novel. (ONTARIO)

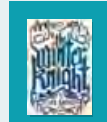


EVENTS: [30 | PAGE 26](#) [77 | PAGE 50](#)

JES BATTIS THE WINTER KNIGHT

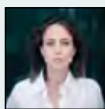


JES BATTIS (they/them) is a queer autistic writer, teacher, and the author of the Occult Special Investigator series and Parallel Parks series (as Bailey Cunningham). Their first novel, *Night Child*, was shortlisted for the Sunburst Award. Jes teaches at the University of Regina. (SASKATCHEWAN)

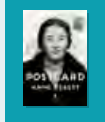


EVENTS: [41 | PAGE 31](#) [44 | PAGE 32](#)

ANNE BEREST | THE POSTCARD



ANNE BEREST is the bestselling co-author of *How to Be Parisian Wherever You Are*, and the author of *Gabriële*, the critically-acclaimed biography of her great-grandmother, Gabriële Buffet-Picabia, Marcel Duchamp's lover. Her book *The Postcard* was a finalist for the Goncourt Prize and has been a long-running bestseller in France. (FRANCE)

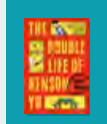


EVENTS: [32](#) | [PAGE 27](#)

KEVIN CHONG | THE DOUBLE LIFE OF BENSON YU



KEVIN CHONG is the award-winning author of several books of fiction and nonfiction. His work has appeared in *The Guardian*, *The Rumpus*, and more. He currently lives in Vancouver and is an associate professor at the University of British Columbia, Okanagan campus. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)

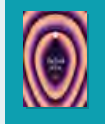


EVENTS: [12](#) | [PAGE 17](#)

CARMEN BOULLOSA | THE BOOK OF EVE



CARMEN BOULLOSA is one of Mexico's leading novelists, poets, and playwrights. She has published over a dozen novels, three of which have been published by Deep Vellum in English translation. Boullosa has received numerous prizes and honours, including a Guggenheim fellowship. (MEXICO)

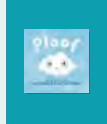


EVENTS: [44](#) | [PAGE 32](#) [59](#) | [PAGE 41](#) [84](#) | [PAGE 54](#)

BEN CLANTON | PLOOF AND A SUPER SCARY NARWHALLOWEEN



BEN CLANTON is the *New York Times* bestselling author and illustrator of the Narwhal and Jelly series, whose picture books include *Mo's Mustache*; *Vote for Me!*; *Rot, the Cutest in the World!*; *Boo Who?; It Came in the Mail!*; *Something Extraordinary* and *Rex Wrecks It!*. (USA)



EVENTS: [07](#) | [PAGE 15](#) [40](#) | [PAGE 30](#)

LOUISE CANDLISH | THE ONLY SUSPECT



LOUISE CANDLISH is the internationally bestselling author of fifteen novels, including *The Other Passenger*, *The Heights*, and *Our House*. Louise lives in London with her husband and daughter. (UK)



EVENTS: [13](#) | [PAGE 18](#)

HELEN COVA | AUTOSARCOPHAGY AND SNULLI LIKES BEING ALONE AND SNULLI LEARNS TO SAY NO



HELEN COVA is a Venezuelan writer in Iceland. Author of *Autosarcophagy – To Eat Oneself* and the Snulli series, her work has been published in numerous journals and The Polaris trilogy, an anthology being included in a NASA flight to the Moon's South Pole. (VENEZUELA/ICELAND)



EVENTS: [54](#) | [PAGE 39](#) [59](#) | [PAGE 41](#)

CORINNA CHONG | THE WHOLE ANIMAL

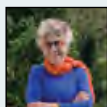


CORINNA CHONG's short fiction has appeared in *Grain*, *Room*, and *Riddle Fence*. She won the 2021 CBC Short Story Prize for "Kids in Kindergarten." Corinna's first novel, *Belinda's Rings*, was published by NeWest Press in 2013. She is an English and Fine Arts Professor at Okanagan College. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)

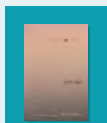


EVENTS: [28](#) | [PAGE 25](#)

LORNA CROZIER | AFTER THAT

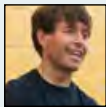


LORNA CROZIER is the author of more than twenty-five books and was named an Officer of the Order of Canada as one of Canada's pre-eminent poets. She was awarded the BC Lieutenant Governor's Award for Literary Excellence and the George Woodcock Lifetime Achievement Award. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)



EVENTS: [60](#) | [PAGE 41](#) [74](#) | [PAGE 48](#)

MICHAEL CRUMMEY THE ADVERSARY

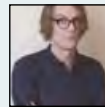


MICHAEL CRUMMEY's most recent novel, *The Innocents*, was a finalist for the Scotiabank Giller Prize, the Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize, and the Governor General's Literary Award. His first novel, *River Thieves*, was a finalist for the Scotiabank Giller Prize. (NEWFOUNDLAND)



EVENTS: 68 | PAGE 46 84 | PAGE 54

PATRICK deWITT THE LIBRARIANIST



PATRICK deWITT is the author of the novels *French Exit* (a finalist for the Scotiabank Giller Prize), *The Sisters Brothers* (winner of the Governor General's Literary Award for Fiction and the Atwood Gibson Writers' Trust Fiction Prize), and the critically acclaimed *Undermajordomo Minor and Ablutions*. (BRITISH COLUMBIA/USA)



EVENTS: 15 | PAGE 19 29 | PAGE 26 76 | PAGE 50

MIKE DEAS CANDLE POINT

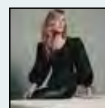


MIKE DEAS is an author/illustrator of graphic novels, including the Sueño Bay Adventures, the Tank & Fizz and the Graphic Guide Adventures series. While he grew up with a love of illustrative storytelling, Capilano College's commercial animation program helped Mike fine-tune his drawing skills and imagination. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)

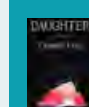


EVENTS: 35 | PAGE 29

CLAUDIA DEY DAUGHTER



CLAUDIA DEY is the author of *Stunt*, a *Globe and Mail* and *Quill & Quire* Book of the Year and *Heartbreaker*, highlighted in several "most anticipated" lists in 2018. Her plays have been produced internationally and nominated for the Governor General's Award and Trillium Book Award. Dey is co-founder of the design studio and clothing label Horses Atelier. (ONTARIO)



EVENTS: 57 | PAGE 40 67 | PAGE 45

NANCY DEAS CANDLE POINT



NANCY DEAS grew up on a farm on Mayne Island, British Columbia. She has a great love of travel and adventure. Nancy holds a bachelor of arts from the University of Victoria. She now explores Salt Spring Island, where she lives with her family. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)

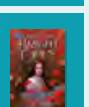
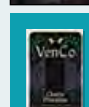


EVENTS: 35 | PAGE 29

CHERIE DIMALINE VENCO AND FUNERAL SONGS FOR DYING GIRLS AND INTO THE BRIGHT OPEN



CHERIE DIMALINE is an author from the Georgian Bay Métis Community. Her book *The Marrow Thieves* won numerous awards, including the prestigious Kirkus Prize for Young Readers' Literature. Its sequel, *Hunting by Stars*, was selected as Book of the Year from NPR, Indigo, and Kobo. (ONTARIO)

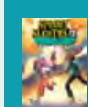


EVENTS: 02 | PAGE 13 25 | PAGE 24 33 | PAGE 28

NATASHA DEEN SPOOKY SLEUTHS #4: FIRE IN THE SKY



NATASHA DEEN is a Guyanese-Canadian best-selling author, with novels for kids, teens, and adults, and she's a recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal. She teaches Introduction to Children's Writing with the University of Toronto's SCS. She is the author of the Spooky Sleuths chapter book series. (ONTARIO)

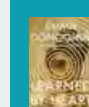


EVENTS: 09 | PAGE 16

EMMA DONOGHUE LEARNED BY HEART



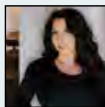
EMMA DONOGHUE is a novelist, screenwriter, and playwright. *Room* sold more than two million copies and won the Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize and the Commonwealth Writers' Prize (Canada and the Caribbean). Donoghue scripted the film adaptation, which was nominated for four Academy Awards. (ONTARIO/IRELAND)



EVENTS: 48 | PAGE 35 68 | PAGE 46

ARNOLDA DUFOUR BOWES

MAGGIE LOU, FIREFOX



ARNOLDA DUFOUR BOWES is a Métis writer who grew up in Saskatoon but has lived around the world, from New Zealand to Saudi Arabia. Her book *20.12 m: A Short Story Collection of a Life Lived as a Road Allowance Métis* won the Danuta Glead Literary Award and the High Plains Book Award. (SASKATCHEWAN)



EVENTS: 23 | PAGE 23 37 | PAGE 30

JENNY ERPENBECK

KAIROS



JENNY ERPENBECK was born in East Berlin. New Directions publishes her books *The Old Child & Other Stories*, *The End of Days*, *The Book of Words*, and *Visitation*. *The End of Days* won the prestigious Hans Fallada Prize and the International Foreign Fiction Prize. Erpenbeck lives in Berlin. (GERMANY)



EVENTS: 76 | PAGE 50 80 | PAGE 51

DEBORAH DUNDAS

ON CLASS



DEBORAH DUNDAS grew up poor in Toronto. She is now a writer, journalist, and an editor at the *Toronto Star*. Her work has appeared in numerous publications in Canada, the UK, and Ireland including *Maclean's*, *The Globe and Mail*, *The National Post*, and *The Sunday Independent*. (ONTARIO)



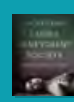
EVENTS: 50 | PAGE 37 66 | PAGE 45

CHRISTINE ESTIMA

THE SYRIAN LADIES BENEVOLENT SOCIETY



CHRISTINE ESTIMA is an Arab woman of mixed ethnicity (Lebanese, Syrian, and Portuguese) whose work has appeared in the *New York Times*, the *Walrus*, *VICE*, and many more. She was shortlisted for the 2018 Allan Slaight Prize for Journalism, and longlisted for the 2015 CBC Canada Writes Creative Nonfiction Prize. (ONTARIO)



EVENTS: 28 | PAGE 25

ESI EDUGYAN

GARDEN OF LOST SOCKS



ESI EDUGYAN is the author of *Half-Blood Blues*, *Dreaming of Elsewhere*, and *Washington Black*, which was shortlisted for the Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize and the Man Booker Prize and won the 2018 Scotiabank Giller Prize. *Garden of Lost Socks* is her debut picture book. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)



EVENTS: 19 | PAGE 21

ELAINE FEENEY

HOW TO BUILD A BOAT



ELAINE FEENEY is an award-winning writer from Galway. She has published three collections of poetry, and the drama *WRONGHEADED* with The Liz Roche Company. *As You Were*, her debut novel, was shortlisted for Novel of the Year at the Irish Book Awards and appeared widely in best books of 2020 lists. Her latest novel, *How to Build a Boat*, was recently longlisted for the 2023 Booker Prize. (IRELAND)



EVENTS: 76 | PAGE 50 80 | PAGE 51

ALICIA ELLIOTT

AND THEN SHE FELL



ALICIA ELLIOTT is a Mohawk writer and editor living in Brantford, Ontario. Her short fiction was selected for Best American Short Stories 2018, Best Canadian Stories 2018, and Journey Prize Stories 30. Her first book, *A Mind Spread Out On The Ground*, was a national bestseller. (ONTARIO)



EVENTS: 11 | PAGE 17 26 | PAGE 25

IAN FERGUSON

I ONLY READ MURDER

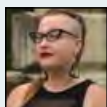


IAN FERGUSON won the Stephen Leacock Medal for *Humour for Village of the Small Houses* and is the co-author of *How to Be a Canadian*, which won the CBA Libris Award for non-fiction. A writer and creative director in the film and television industry, he lives in Victoria. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)



EVENTS: 10 | PAGE 16

JEN FERGUSON | THOSE PINK MOUNTAIN NIGHTS

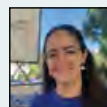


JEN FERGUSON is Michif/Métis and white and has a PhD in English and creative writing. Her debut novel, *The Summer of Bitter and Sweet*, won the Governor General's Literary Award for Young People's Literature. She lives in Cedar Rapids, IA, and teaches at Coe College. (USA)

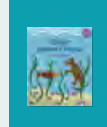


EVENTS: 25 | PAGE 24 34 | PAGE 28 53 | PAGE 38

ANDREA FRITZ | OTTER DOESN'T KNOW



ANDREA FRITZ is a Coast Salish artist and storyteller from the Lyackson First Nation of the Hul'q'umi'num'-speaking Peoples on the West Coast of Canada. She studied West Coast Native art with Victor Newman, a Kwakwaka'wakw master artist. Andrea strives to express her People's history and all our futures using her art. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)



EVENTS: 19 | PAGE 21

WILL FERGUSON | I ONLY READ MURDER



WILL FERGUSON is a three-time winner of the Leacock Medal for Humour. His novels include *HappinessTM*, *419*, which won the Scotiabank Giller Prize; and *The Finder*, which won the Arthur Ellis Award for Crime Fiction. He is the co-author of mega-bestseller *How to Be a Canadian*. (ALBERTA)

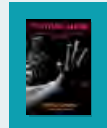


EVENTS: 10 | PAGE 16

RUEBEN GEORGE | IT STOPS HERE



RUEBEN GEORGE is Sun Dance Chief and a member of the Tsleil-Waututh Nation (TWN). After working as a family counsellor for twenty years, he became manager of the TWN's Sacred Trust initiative to protect the unceded Tsleil-Waututh lands and waters from the proposed Trans Mountain Pipeline expansion. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)

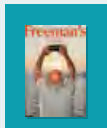


EVENTS: 42 | PAGE 31

JOHN FREEMAN | FREEMAN'S: CONCLUSIONS



JOHN FREEMAN is the founder of the literary annual *Freeman's*, the latest and final issue of which is themed to conclusions. The author and editor of twelve books, he lives in New York City. His latest is *Wind, Trees*, a collection of poems. (USA)



EVENTS: 62 | PAGE 44

CHARLOTTE GILL | ALMOST BROWN



CHARLOTTE GILL is a bestselling and award-winning writer of fiction and narrative nonfiction. *Ladykiller*, her first book, was the recipient of the Danuta Gleed Award for short fiction. *Eating Dirt*, a tree-planting memoir, was a #1 national bestseller in Canada. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)



EVENTS: 51 | PAGE 37 79 | PAGE 51

PATRICK FRIESEN | RECKONING



PATRICK FRIESEN has published more than a dozen books of poetry, a book of essays, stage and radio plays, and has co-translated, with Per Brask, five books of Danish poetry. Most recently he has released the collaborative CD, *Buson's Bell*, and *Outlasting the Weather: Selected & New Poems, 1994-2020*. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)

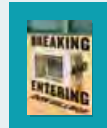


EVENTS: 60 | PAGE 41 70 | PAGE 47

DON GILLMOR | BREAKING AND ENTERING

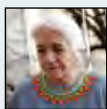


DON GILLMOR is the author of *To the River*, which won the Governor General's Award for nonfiction, as well as three novels and nine books for children. He was a senior editor at *The Walrus*, and his journalism has appeared in *Rolling Stone*, *GQ*, *The Walrus*, and more. (ONTARIO)



EVENTS: 67 | PAGE 45

MICHELLE GOOD | TRUTH TELLING



MICHELLE GOOD is a writer of Cree ancestry and a member of the Red Pheasant Cree Nation. Her novel, *Five Little Indians*, received the Amazon First Novel Award, the Kobo Emerging Writer Prize, the Governor General's Award for Fiction, and was chosen for Canada Reads 2022. (SASKATCHEWAN)



EVENTS: 72 | PAGE 48

PAUL HARDING | THIS OTHER EDEN

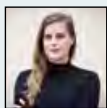


PAUL HARDING is an American author whose debut novel *Tinkers* won the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction among other honours. He now teaches in the MFA program in Creative Writing and Literature at Stony Brook University. *This Other Eden* is his third novel and was recently longlisted for the 2023 Booker Prize. (USA)



EVENTS: 48 | PAGE 35 76 | PAGE 50

LAUREN GROFF | THE VASTER WILDS



LAUREN GROFF is a three-time National Book Award finalist and the author of the novels *The Monsters of Templeton*, *Arcadia*, *Fates and Furies*, and *Matrix*, and the short story collections *Delicate Edible Birds* and *Florida*. She has won the Story Prize and the Joyce Carol Oates Prize. (USA)

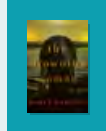


EVENTS: 61 | PAGE 41

ROBYN HARDING | THE DROWNING WOMAN



ROBYN HARDING is the bestselling author of *The Perfect Family*, *The Arrangement*, *Her Pretty Face*, and *The Party*, which was a finalist for the Arthur Ellis Award for best crime novel. Her book, *The Swap*, debuted at #1 on the *Globe and Mail* and *Toronto Star* Canadian Bestsellers lists. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)



EVENTS: 81 | PAGE 53

AYELET GUNDAR-GOSHEN | THE WOLF HUNT



AYELET GUNDAR-GOSHEN is the author of *The Liar and Waking Lions*, which won the JQ-Wingate Prize and was a *New York Times* Notable Book. She is a clinical psychologist, has worked for the Israeli civil rights movement, and is a screenwriter. She won Israel's prestigious Sapir Prize for best debut. (ISRAEL)



EVENTS: 77 | PAGE 50 80 | PAGE 51

AISHA HARRIS | WANNABE: RECKONINGS WITH THE POP CULTURE THAT SHAPES ME



AISHA HARRIS is a cohost and reporter for the hit NPR podcast *Pop Culture Happy Hour*. She previously held editorial positions at *Slate* and the *New York Times*. Aisha earned her bachelor's degree in theatre from Northwestern University and her master's degree in cinema studies from NYU. (USA)

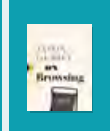


EVENTS: 31 | PAGE 27 38 | PAGE 30 46 | PAGE 34

JASON GURIEL | THE FULL-MOON WHALING CHRONICLES AND ON BROWSING



JASON GURIEL is the author of *On Browsing*, *Forgotten Work*, and other books. He lives in Toronto. (ONTARIO)



EVENTS: 54 | PAGE 39 66 | PAGE 45

JÉRÉMIE HARRIS | QUANTUM PHYSICS MADE ME DO IT



JÉRÉMIE HARRIS is a former physicist, AI safety expert, and startup founder. He is the co-founder of Gladstone AI, an AI safety company focused on addressing sources of potential catastrophic risk associated with the development of advanced AI systems. He hosts the *Last Week in AI* podcast. (ONTARIO)

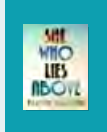


EVENTS: 65 | PAGE 39 79 | PAGE 51

BEATRIZ HAUSNER SHE WHO LIES ABOVE



BEATRIZ HAUSNER was born in Chile and immigrated to Canada when she was a teenager. She has published many books, including *Enter the Raccoon* and *Beloved Revolutionary Sweetheart*, which have been translated into several languages. She was a founding publisher of Quattro Books. (ONTARIO/CHILE)

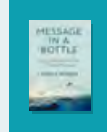


EVENTS: 44 | PAGE 32 59 | PAGE 41

HOLLY HOGAN MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE



HOLLY HOGAN is a writer and wildlife biologist with a focus on seabirds. She has been interviewed for CBC Radio, appears in a National Film Board series called Ocean School, and provided expertise on seabirds and the impact of marine plastic for the award-winning documentary *Hell or Clean Water*. (NEWFOUNDLAND)

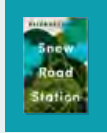


EVENTS: 79 | PAGE 51

ELIZABETH HAY SNOW ROAD STATION



ELIZABETH HAY is the Giller Prize-winning author of six novels. Her memoir *All Things Consolated* won the Hilary Weston Writers' Trust Prize for Nonfiction; her story collection *Small Change* was shortlisted for the Governor General's Literary Award for Fiction. (ONTARIO)

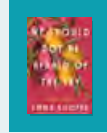


EVENTS: 68 | PAGE 46 84 | PAGE 54

EMMA HOOPER WE SHOULD NOT BE AFRAID OF THE SKY

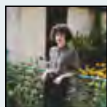


EMMA HOOPER is a writer and musician, performing as Waitress for the Bees. Her debut novel, *Etta and Otto and Russell and James*, was an international bestseller. *Our Homesick Songs* was longlisted for the Scotiabank Giller Prize and named a *Globe and Mail* Best Book of 2018. (ALBERTA/ENGLAND)



EVENTS: 57 | PAGE 40 84 | PAGE 54

EMMA HEALEY BEST YOUNG WOMAN JOB BOOK



EMMA HEALEY has published two collections of poetry, *Begin with the End in Mind* and *Stereoblind*. She was formerly poetry critic at the *Globe and Mail*, and the recipient of the Irving Layton Award for Creative Writing in both 2010 and 2013, and a National Magazine Award nominee in 2015. (ONTARIO)



EVENTS: 50 | PAGE 37

DANIEL INNES DENISON AVENUE



DANIEL INNES's extensive portfolio includes painting, installation, graphic and textile design, illustration, sign painting, and tattooing. He has lived in Toronto's Spadina-Chinatown neighbourhood for over 20 years. His time is now spent between Toronto and his studio (an artist residency project) in Hyōgo, Japan. (ONTARIO)

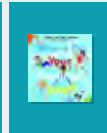


EVENTS: 54 | PAGE 39 65 | PAGE 45

CATHERINE HERNANDEZ THE STORY OF US AND WHERE DO YOUR FEELINGS LIVE?



CATHERINE HERNANDEZ (she/her) is a queer woman of Filipino, Spanish, Chinese, and Indian descent who married into the Navajo Nation. Her first novel, *Scarborough*, was a finalist for Canada Reads 2022. Her second novel, *Crosshairs*, was shortlisted for the Toronto Book Award. (ONTARIO)

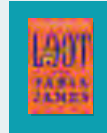


EVENTS: 19 | PAGE 21 29 | PAGE 26

TANIA JAMES LOOT



TANIA JAMES is the author of the novels *The Tusk That Did the Damage*, *Atlas of Unknowns*, *Loot*, and the short story collection *Aerogrammes*. Her fiction has appeared in *Boston Review*, *Granta*, *Guernica*, *One Story*, *A Public Space*, and *The Kenyon Review*. She lives in Washington, DC. (USA)



EVENTS: 62 | PAGE 44 76 | PAGE 50

VALERIE JEROME | RACES



VALERIE JEROME represented Canada in the sprints and long jump at the 1960 Rome Olympics, the Commonwealth Games, and the Pan American Games. She is a recipient of the 125th Anniversary of the Confederation of Canada Medal and a City of Vancouver Heritage Award for her work in conservation. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)



EVENTS: 79 | PAGE 51

JON KLASSEN | THE SKULL



JON KLASSEN is the creator of the #1 *New York Times* best-selling *I Want My Hat Back* and its companions: *This Is Not My Hat* and *We Found a Hat*. He is the author-illustrator of *The Rock from the Sky* and illustrator of many other books, including the Pax series by Sara Pennypacker. (USA/ONTARIO)



EVENTS: 03 | PAGE 14 07 | PAGE 15

NICOLA JONES | SAVING THE SPOTTED OWL



NICOLA JONES is an award-winning science journalist with a background in chemistry and oceanography. While she normally writes for grown-ups, she has also published for children in the magazine *Current Science*. In 2019, she gave a TED Talk about noise pollution in the ocean. (BRITISH COLUMBIA/BITAIN)



EVENTS: 23 | PAGE 23

NAOMI KLEIN | DOPPELGÄNGER

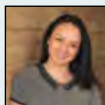


NAOMI KLEIN is the award-winning author of international bestsellers including *This Changes Everything*, *The Shock Doctrine*, *No Logo*, *No Is Not Enough*, and *On Fire*, which have been published in more than thirty-five languages. She is the founding co-director of UBC's Centre of Climate Justice. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)



EVENTS: 75 | PAGE 48

MICHELLE KADARUSMAN | WE THE SEA TURTLES



MICHELLE KADARUSMAN grew up in Melbourne, Australia, and also lived many years throughout her father's homeland of Indonesia before moving to Canada. Her books have earned numerous nominations, including for the Governor General's Literary Award, the Ontario Library Association Silver Birch Award, and the Green Earth Book Award. (ONTARIO/AUSTRALIA)



EVENTS: 05 | PAGE 14 23 | PAGE 23

HELEN KNOTT | BECOMING A Matriarch



HELEN KNOTT is a Dane Zaa, Nehiyaw, Métis, and mixed Euro-descent woman living in Fort St. John, British Columbia. Her bestselling debut memoir, *In My Own Moccasins*, wowed reviewers, award juries, and readers alike. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)



EVENTS: 51 | PAGE 37 79 | PAGE 51

DANIEL KALLA | FIT TO DIE



DANIEL KALLA is an internationally bestselling author of many novels, including *The Darkness in the Light*, *Lost Immunity*, *The Last High*, and *We All Fall Down*. Kalla practices emergency medicine in Vancouver. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)



EVENTS: 81 | PAGE 53

CLARA KUMAGAI | CATFISH ROLLING



CLARA KUMAGAI is from Canada, Japan, and Ireland. She has been published in *Room* and *The Kyoto Journal*, among others. She is a recipient of a We Need Diverse Books Mentorship, and was a finalist for the 2020 Jim Wong-Chu Emerging Writers Award. *Catfish Rolling* is her debut novel. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)



EVENTS: 34 | PAGE 28 41 | PAGE 31

CHRISTINE LAI | LANDSCAPES



CHRISTINE LAI grew up in Canada and holds a PhD in English Literature from University College London. *Landscapes* was shortlisted for the inaugural Novel Prize, offered by New Directions Publishing, Fitzcarraldo Editions, and Giramondo Publishing. Christine lives in Vancouver. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)



EVENTS: 47 | PAGE 35

CATHERINE LEROUX | THE FUTURE



CATHERINE LEROUX was born in the Northern suburbs of Montreal. She is the author of *Marche en forêt*, *Madame Victoria*, and *The Party Wall*, which was shortlisted for the 2016 Scotiabank Giller Prize and won the 2016 Governor General's Award for Translation. (QUEBEC)



EVENTS: 47 | PAGE 35

SHARI LAPENA | EVERYONE HERE IS LYING



SHARI LAPENA is the internationally bestselling author of six previous thrillers—including *The Couple Next Door*, *A Stranger in the House*, and *An Unwanted Guest*—all of which have been *New York Times* and *The Sunday Times* (London) bestsellers. *Everyone Here Is Lying* is her seventh thriller. (ONTARIO)

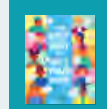


EVENTS: 13 | PAGE 18

TANYA LLOYD KYI | THE BEST WAY TO GET YOUR WAY



TANYA LLOYD KYI is the author of more than twenty-five books for children and adults, including *This Is Your Brain on Stereotypes*, *Under Pressure* and *Mya's Strategy to Save the World*. She lives with her husband and two teenagers in Vancouver. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)



EVENTS: 04 | PAGE 14

JEN SOOKFONG LEE | SUPERFAN



JEN SOOKFONG LEE was born and raised in Vancouver's East Side. Her books include *The Conjoined*, nominated for International Dublin Literary Award, and *The Better Mother*, a finalist for the City of Vancouver Book Award. Jen acquires and edits for ECW Press and co-hosts the literary podcast Can't Lit. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)



EVENTS: 06 | PAGE 14 46 | PAGE 34

CARRIE MAC | LAST WINTER

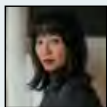


CARRIE MAC is the author of several award-winning novels for teen readers; as a queer author, she proudly writes for marginalized youth. She brings her experience as a former paramedic, as a widow, and as a parent living with Bipolar 1 to *Last Winter*. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)

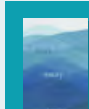


EVENTS: 11 | PAGE 17

JOANNE LEOW | SEAS MOVE AWAY



JOANNE LEOW is an Associate Professor at Simon Fraser University. Her writing has been published in *Brick*, *Catapult*, *Evergreen Review*, *The Goose*, *Isle*, *The Kindling*, *The Town Crier*, and *Ricepaper Magazine*. *Seas Move Away* is her debut collection of poetry. (BRITISH COLUMBIA/SINGAPORE)



EVENTS: 70 | PAGE 47

STEPHEN MARCHE | ON WRITING AND FAILURE



STEPHEN MARCHE is a novelist, essayist, and cultural commentator. He is the author of half a dozen books, and has written opinion pieces and essays for the *New Yorker*, the *New York Times*, *The Atlantic*, *Esquire*, *The Walrus*, and many others. He lives in Toronto. (ONTARIO)

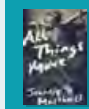


EVENTS: 66 | PAGE 45 79 | PAGE 51

JEANNIE MARSHALL | ALL THINGS MOVE



JEANNIE MARSHALL is a writer who has been living in Italy with her family since 2002. A nonfiction author, journalist, and former staff features writer at the *National Post*, she contributes articles to *Maclean's* and the *Walrus* and has published literary nonfiction in *The Common*, *Brick*, and elsewhere. (ITALY)



EVENTS: [83](#) | [PAGE 54](#)

MICHAEL MELGAARD | NOT THAT KIND OF PLACE



MICHAEL MELGAARD is the author of the short story collection *Pallbearing*. His writing has appeared in *Best Canadian Stories* anthology, as well as *Joyland*, *Lithub*, and elsewhere. He is a former book columnist for the *National Post*. Originally from Vancouver Island, he currently lives in Toronto. (BRITISH COLUMBIA/ONTARIO)

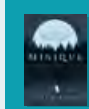


EVENTS: [71](#) | [PAGE 47](#)

ANNA MAXYMIW | MINIQUE



ANNA MAXYMIW is the author of the novel *Minique*. Her memoir, *Dirty Work: My Gruelling, Glorious, Life-Changing Summer In the Wilderness*, won the Louise de Kiriline Lawrence Award for Nonfiction. Her writing has appeared in various newspapers and magazines and has won a National Magazine Award. (ONTARIO)

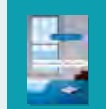


EVENTS: [33](#) | [PAGE 28](#)

SEAN MICHAELS | DO YOU REMEMBER BEING BORN?



SEAN MICHAELS was born in Scotland, raised in Ottawa, and he eventually settled in Montreal, founding Said the Gramophone, one of the earliest music blogs. He has written for the *Guardian* and *McSweeney's*, toured with rock bands, searched the Parisian catacombs, and received two National Magazine Awards. His debut novel, *Us Conductors*, won the Giller Prize in 2014. (QUÉBEC/SCOTLAND)

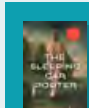


EVENTS: [29](#) | [PAGE 26](#) | [46](#) | [PAGE 34](#)

SUZETTE MAYR | THE SLEEPING CAR PORTER



SUZETTE MAYR is the author of the novels *Dr. Edith Vane and the Hares of Crawley Hall*, *Monoceros*, *Moon Honey*, *The Widows*, *Venous Hum*, and *The Sleeping Car Porter*, which won the 2022 Giller Prize. (ALBERTA)

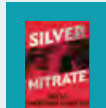


EVENTS: [31](#) | [PAGE 27](#) | [58](#) | [PAGE 41](#)

SILVIA MORENO-GARCIA | SILVER NITRATE



SILVIA MORENO-GARCIA is the author of *Velvet Was the Night*, *Mexican Gothic*, *Gods of Jade and Shadow*, among others. She has also edited several anthologies, including the World Fantasy Award-winning *She Walks in Shadows*. She has won the British Fantasy Award and the Locus Award. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)

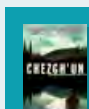


EVENTS: [30](#) | [PAGE 26](#) | [73](#) | [PAGE 48](#)

DARREL J. MCLEOD | A SEASON IN CHEZGH'UN



DARREL J. MCLEOD is Nehiyaw from Northern Canada, Treaty 8. He worked as an educator, chief negotiator of land claims for the federal government and executive director of education and international affairs with Assembly of First Nations. His novel *A Season in Chezgh'un* joins his award-winning memoirs *Mamaskatch* and *Peyakow*. (TREATY 8/ALBERTA)



EVENTS: [84](#) | [PAGE 54](#)

SUSAN MUSGRAVE | EXCULPATORY LILIES



SUSAN MUSGRAVE's book *Exculpatory Lilies* was longlisted for the 2023 Griffin Poetry Prize. She has written poetry, numerous works of fiction and non-fiction, and books for children. She is the recipient of the Matt Cohen Award, the BC Book Award, and the George Woodcock Award for Outstanding Literary Achievement. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)

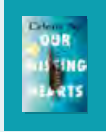


EVENTS: [60](#) | [PAGE 41](#) | [74](#) | [PAGE 48](#)

CELESTE NG OUR MISSING HEARTS



CELESTE NG is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Everything I Never Told You*, *Little Fires Everywhere*, and *Our Missing Hearts*. Ng is the recipient of fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Guggenheim Foundation, and her work has been published in over thirty languages. (USA)



EVENTS: [45 | PAGE 34](#)

KIRSTEN PENDREIGH MAYBE A WHALE



KIRSTEN PENDREIGH is a children's author and poet. Her books celebrate our instincts to care for the plants and creatures that share our planet. Her poems can be found in literary magazines and in *Best Canadian Poetry 2021*. Formerly a CBC and NPR journalist, Pendreigh also writes non-fiction for children. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)



EVENTS: [08 | PAGE 15](#)

FAE MYENNE NG ORPHAN BACHELORS



FAE MYENNE NG is the author of PEN/Faulkner Fiction finalist *Bone* and American Book Award winner *Steer Toward Rock*. She has been the recipient of fellowships from the American Academy of Arts & Letters, the Guggenheim, the Lannan Foundation, the NEA, the Radcliffe Institute, and the Rockefeller Foundation. (USA)



EVENTS: [51 | PAGE 37](#) [65 | PAGE 45](#)

WILLIAM PING HOLLOW BAMBOO



WILLIAM PING is a Chinese-Canadian writer from Newfoundland. He received the 2022 Cox & Palmer Creative Writing Award as well as the 2021 Landfall Trust. His work has previously been featured on the CBC, in *Riddle Fence*, and in the anthologies *Us, Now* and *Hard Ticket*. (NEWFOUNDLAND)

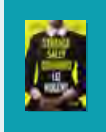


EVENTS: [12 | PAGE 17](#) [46 | PAGE 34](#) [52 | PAGE 38](#)

LIZ NUGENT STRANGE SALLY DIAMOND



LIZ NUGENT is an award-winning writer of radio and television dramas and acclaimed short stories for children and adults. She has written the bestselling novels *Unraveling Oliver*, *Lying in Wait*, and *Little Cruelties*, and won four Irish Book Awards, as well as the James Joyce Medal for Literature. (IRELAND)

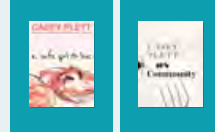


EVENTS: [13 | PAGE 18](#) [71 | PAGE 47](#)

CASEY PLETT A SAFE GIRL TO LOVE AND ON COMMUNITY



CASEY PLETT is the author of *A Dream of a Woman*, *Little Fish*, and *A Safe Girl to Love*. A winner of the Amazon First Novel Award, the Firecracker Award for Fiction, and a two-time winner of the Lambda Literary Award, her work has also been nominated for the Scotiabank Giller Prize. (ONTARIO)

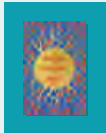


EVENTS: [53 | PAGE 38](#) [66 | PAGE 45](#) [69 | PAGE 46](#)

JANIKA OZA A HISTORY OF BURNING



JANIKA OZA is the winner of the 2022 O. Henry Prize for Short Fiction and the 2020 Kenyon Review Short Fiction Award. A chapter of *A History of Burning* was longlisted for the 2019 CBC Short Story Prize and published in *Prairie Schooner*. She lives in Toronto. (ONTARIO)

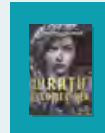


EVENTS: [16 | PAGE 19](#) [48 | PAGE 35](#)

ADEN POLYDOROS WRATH BECOMES HER



ADEN POLYDOROS is an award-winning author who transitioned from female-to-male when he was 14. After 10 years, he came out as transgender to support trans youth and vocalize how transitioning saved his life. His novel, *The City Beautiful*, won the Sydney Taylor Book Award and was a finalist for other awards. (USA)



EVENTS: [18 | PAGE 20](#) [53 | PAGE 38](#)

MICHELLE PORTER

A GRANDMOTHER BEGINS THE STORY



MICHELLE PORTER is the descendant of a long line of Métis storytellers. She holds degrees in Journalism, Folklore, English, and Geography. Her work focuses on home, memory, and women's changing relationships with the land. She has won numerous awards and has been published in literary journals across Canada. (NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR)



EVENTS: 26 | PAGE 25 52 | PAGE 38

RICHARD SCRIMGER

AT THE SPEED OF GUS



RICHARD SCRIMGER has written more than twenty books for children and adults, many of which have won or been nominated for major awards and been published internationally. He is also a popular presenter in schools. *At the Speed of Gus* is his latest novel. (ONTARIO)



EVENTS: 37 | PAGE 30

ZALIKA REID-BENTA

RIVER MUMMA



ZALIKA REID-BENTA's debut *Frying Plantain* won the Danuta Gled Literary Award and the Rakuten Kobo Emerging Writer Prize. It was longlisted for the Scotiabank Giller Prize, and shortlisted for the Toronto Book Award, the White Pine Award, and the Trillium Book Award. She received an MFA in fiction from Columbia University. (ONTARIO)



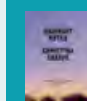
EVENTS: 33 | PAGE 28 57 | PAGE 40

CHRISTINA SHARPE

ORDINARY NOTES



CHRISTINA SHARPE is a writer, professor, and Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in Black Studies in the Humanities at York University. She's the author of *Monstrous Intimacies: Making Post-Slavery Subjects* and *In the Wake: On Blackness and Being*, named a best book of 2016 by the *Guardian* and *The Walrus*. (ONTARIO)



EVENTS: 31 | PAGE 27 78 | PAGE 50

NABEN RUTHNUM

THE GRIMMER



NABEN RUTHNUM won the Journey Prize for short fiction. He has written for the *National Post*, the *Globe and Mail*, *Hazlitt*, and *The Walrus*. His most recent works are *A Hero of Our Time* and the horror novella *Helpmeet*. He's written thrillers as Nathan Ripley and also writes for the screen. (ONTARIO)



EVENTS: 18 | PAGE 20

SAM SHELSTAD

THE COBRA AND THE KEY



SAM SHELSTAD's debut novel, *Citizens of Light*, won the 2023 Crime Writers of Canada Award for Best First Crime Novel. He's the author of the short story collection *Cop House* and his fiction has appeared in *The Walrus* and *The New Quarterly*. He contributes to McSweeney's Internet Tendency. (ONTARIO)



EVENTS: 12 | PAGE 17

EMI SASAGAWA

ATOMWEIGHT



EMI SASAGAWA is a settler, immigrant, and queer woman of colour, living and working on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories in Vancouver. An award-winning journalist who has reported on a wide range of social issues, she is completing a Creative Writing MFA at the University of British Columbia. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)



EVENTS: 67 | PAGE 45

CRYSTAL SMITH

MAYBE A WHALE



CRYSTAL SMITH is the daughter of a lighthouse keeper who discovered her passion for wildlife when she was small. She illustrates the natural world to spark curiosity and wonder, kindle concern, and illuminate issues. She has worked with the David Suzuki Foundation and Parks Canada, among other clients. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)

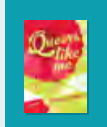


EVENTS: 08 | PAGE 15

MICHAEL V. SMITH QUEERS LIKE ME

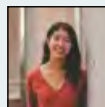


MICHAEL V. SMITH has published six previous books, which include three collections of poetry, a memoir, and two novels. Also an award-winning filmmaker, drag queen, and professor, Smith teaches at UBC Okanagan, in Kelowna, BC, where he lives with his brilliant husband. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)

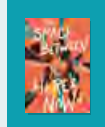


EVENTS: 60 | PAGE 41

SARAH SUK THE SPACE BETWEEN HERE & NOW



SARAH SUK (pronounced like soup with a K) lives in Vancouver, where she writes stories and admires mountains. She is the author of the young adult novels *Made in Korea* and *The Space between Here & Now*, as well as the co-writer of John Cho's middle grade novel *Troublemaker*. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)



EVENTS: 24 | PAGE 24 41 | PAGE 31

REBECCA SOLNIT NOT TOO LATE

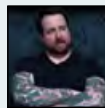


REBECCA SOLNIT is the author of more than twenty books, including *Orwell's Roses*; *Hope in the Dark*; *Men Explain Things to Me*; and *A Field Guide to Getting Lost*. She serves on the board of the climate group Oil Change International, and the advisory boards of Dayenu and Third Act. (USA)

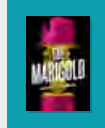


EVENTS: 64 | PAGE 45 85 | PAGE 54

ANDREW F. SULLIVAN THE MARIGOLD



ANDREW F. SULLIVAN is the author of novels *The Marigold*; *The Handyman Method* (co-written with Nick Cutter); *Waste*, a *Globe and Mail* Best Book; and the story collection *All We Want Is Everything*, a *Globe and Mail* Best Book and finalist for the Relit Award. He lives in Hamilton, Ontario. (ONTARIO)

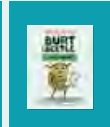
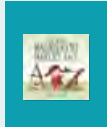


EVENTS: 47 | PAGE 35 50 | PAGE 37

ASHLEY SPIRES THE MOST MAGNIFICENT MAKER'S A TO Z AND BURT THE BEETLE LIVES HERE!



ASHLEY SPIRES is the author and illustrator of the bestselling *The Most Magnificent Thing* and the Binky the Space Cat series. Besides making books, she enjoys yoga, jogging, and fostering orphan kittens for her local shelter. Spires lives just outside Vancouver with her dog and far too many felines. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)

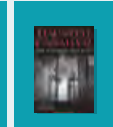
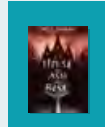


EVENTS: 22 | PAGE 23

JOEL A. SUTHERLAND HOUSE OF ASH AND BONE AND HAUNTED CANADA 12



JOEL A. SUTHERLAND is the Silver Birch and Hackmatack Award-winning author of numerous Haunted Canada books. His middle-grade fiction series, *Haunted*, has been praised by *Goosebumps* author R.L. Stine. Sutherland works as a library manager and is always on the lookout for ghosts. (ONTARIO)



EVENTS: 09 | PAGE 16 18 | PAGE 20

AMY STUART A DEATH AT THE PARTY



AMY STUART is the bestselling author of three previous novels: *Still Mine*, *Still Water*, and *Still Here*. Shortlisted for the Arthur Ellis Best First Novel Award and winner of the 2011 Writers' Union of Canada Short Prose Competition, Stuart is the founder of Writerscape, an online community for hopeful and emerging writers. (ONTARIO)

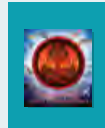


EVENTS: 81 | PAGE 53

TUI T. SUTHERLAND WINGS OF FIRE: A GUIDE TO THE DRAGON WORLD



TUI T. SUTHERLAND is the author of the #1 *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling *Wings of Fire* series, the *Menagerie* trilogy, and the *Pet Trouble* series, as well as a contributing author to the bestselling *Spirit Animals and Seekers* series. In 2009, she was a two-day champion on *Jeopardy!* (USA)



EVENTS: 20 | PAGE 21 39 | PAGE 30

JILLIAN TAMAKI | ROAMING



JILLIAN TAMAKI is a cartoonist, illustrator, and educator. She's the author of the Eisner Award-winning graphic novels *SuperMutant Magic Academy* and *Boundless*. With her cousin Mariko Tamaki, she is the co-creator of the graphic novels *Skim* and *This One Summer*, which won a Governor General's Award and Caldecott Honor. (ONTARIO)



EVENTS: 14 | PAGE 18

MARIKO TAMAKI | ROAMING



MARIKO TAMAKI is the co-creator of the graphic novels *Skim* and *This One Summer* with Jillian Tamaki, and *Laura Dean Keeps Breaking Up with Me* with Rosemary Valero-O'Connell. She writes superhero comics for DC Comics, Darkhorse, and Marvel. Her works have received Printz Honors, Eisner, Ignatz, Ringo and Prism awards. (USA)



EVENTS: 14 | PAGE 18

WANDA TAYLOR | THE GROVER SCHOOL PLEDGE



WANDA TAYLOR is the author of both fiction and non-fiction books for children and adult readers. Her writing has appeared in numerous publications such as *Atlantic Books Today*, *Black2Business* magazine and *Peak Magazine*. She is the mentor for the MFA Creative Nonfiction program at the University of King's College. (NOVA SCOTIA)



EVENTS: 37 | PAGE 30

KAI THOMAS | IN THE UPPER COUNTRY



KAI THOMAS is a graduate of McGill University and the University of Guelph's Creative Writing MFA. Besides being a writer, he's a carpenter and a land steward. He is Afro-Canadian, from Ottawa, descended from Trinidad and the British isles. *In the Upper Country*, his first novel, was a national bestseller. (ONTARIO)



EVENTS: 48 | PAGE 35 76 | PAGE 50

Y-DANG TROEUNG | LANDBRIDGE



Y-DANG TROEUNG (1980–2022) was Assistant Professor of English at the University of British Columbia. She was also an Associate Editor of Canadian Literature, and a 2020 Wall Scholar at the Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies. She passed away in November 2022, after completing the final draft of *Landbridge*.



HENRY TSANG | WHITE RIOT: THE 1907 ANTI-ASIAN RIOTS IN VANCOUVER



HENRY TSANG is an artist who explores the spatial politics of history, language, community, food, and cultural translation in relationship to place. His artworks take the form of gallery exhibitions, 360-degree video walking tours, curated dinners, and public art. Henry teaches at Emily Carr University of Art + Design in Vancouver. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)



EVENTS: 65 | PAGE 45

CHRIS TURNER | HOW TO BE A CLIMATE OPTIMIST



CHRIS TURNER is a three-time nominee and one-time winner of the National Business Book Award, and a finalist for the Governor General's Literary Award for Nonfiction (*The Geography of Hope*). He has long been one of Canada's leading voices on climate change solutions and the global energy transition. (ALBERTA)



EVENTS: 85 | PAGE 54

JOHN VAILLANT | FIRE WEATHER



JOHN VAILLANT's acclaimed, award-winning nonfiction books, *The Golden Spruce* and *The Tiger*, were national bestsellers. Vaillant has received the Governor General's Literary Award, British Columbia's National Award for Canadian Non-Fiction, the Windham-Campbell Literature Prize, and the Pearson Writers' Trust Prize for Nonfiction. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)



EVENTS: 85 | PAGE 54

KATHERENA VERMETTE THE CIRCLE

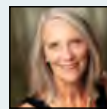


KATHERENA VERMETTE is a Red River Métis (Michif) writer from Treaty 1 territory, Winnipeg. Vermette received the Governor General's Literary Award for her first book, *North End Love Songs*. Her novel, *The Break* won the Amazon First Novel Award and *The Strangers*, won the Atwood Gibson Writers' Trust Fiction Prize. (MANITOBA)

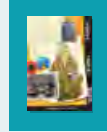


EVENTS: [16 | PAGE 19](#) [26 | PAGE 25](#)

AMANDA WEST LEWIS FOCUS. CLICK. WIND.

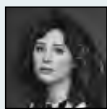


AMANDA WEST LEWIS is the author of *These Are Not the Words* and *September 17*, which was nominated for the Silver Birch Award and the Red Cedar Award. She is the founder of the Ottawa Children's Theatre, and she has an MFA from Vermont College of Fine Arts. (ONTARIO)



EVENTS: [34 | PAGE 28](#)

CHELSEA WAKELYN WHAT REMAINS OF ELSIE JANE

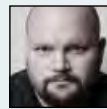


CHELSEA WAKELYN is a writer and musician. She has an MA in Health Leadership and has worked on the front lines as a mental health worker and behind-the-scenes in quality and process improvement. She is now a project manager on public health strategies to mitigate the drug poisoning crisis. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)



EVENTS: [46 | PAGE 34](#) [52 | PAGE 38](#)

SAM WIEBE SUNSET AND JERICHO



SAM WIEBE is the author of the Wakeland novels, one of the most authentic and acclaimed detective series in Canada. He has won the Crime Writers of Canada award and the Kobo Emerging Writers Prize, and been shortlisted for the Edgar, Hammett, Shamus, and City of Vancouver book prizes. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)



EVENTS: [71 | PAGE 47](#)

ANDREA WARNER RISE UP AND SING! – POWER, PROTEST, AND ACTIVISM IN MUSIC



ANDREA WARNER is the author of *Rise Up and Sing! – Power, Protest, and Activism in Music*. She's the author of *Buffy Sainte-Marie: The Authorized Biography*, as well as co-writing and producing the documentary *Buffy Sainte-Marie: Carry It On*. Warner co-hosts the feminist pop culture podcast *Pop This!* (BRITISH COLUMBIA)

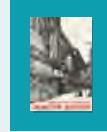


EVENTS: [21 | PAGE 21](#)

CHRISTINA WONG DENISON AVENUE



CHRISTINA WONG is a playwright, prose writer, and multidisciplinary artist who works in sound installation, audio documentaries, and photography. Her plays have been performed at Factory Studio, Theatre Passe Muraille Backspace, and Palmerston Library Theatre. Her work has appeared in *TOK Magazine*, the *Toronto Star*, and on CJRU 1280AM. (ONTARIO)



EVENTS: [54 | PAGE 39](#) [65 | PAGE 45](#)

MATTHEW JAMES WEIGEL WHITEMUD WALKING

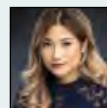


MATTHEW JAMES WEIGEL is a Dene and Métis writer and artist whose debut poetry collection *Whitemud Walking* was a finalist for the 2022 Dayne Ogilvie Prize and won the Gerald Lampert Award, and was shortlisted for the Raymond Souster Award, from the League of Canadian Poets. (ALBERTA)

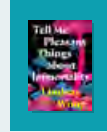


EVENTS: [60 | PAGE 41](#) [70 | PAGE 47](#)

LINDSAY WONG TELL ME PLEASANT THINGS ABOUT IMMORTALITY



LINDSAY WONG is the author of the acclaimed memoir *The Woo-Woo* (a finalist for Canada Reads 2019) and the YA novel, *My Summer of Love and Misfortune*. Wong holds a BFA in creative writing from the University of British Columbia and an MFA in literary nonfiction from Columbia University. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)

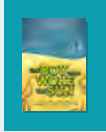


EVENTS: [69 | PAGE 46](#)

A.T. WOODLEY | THE BOY WHO WOKE THE SUN



A.T. WOODLEY was a filmmaker in another life. He grew up in Toronto and currently lives in Victoria, British Columbia, with his wife, their two daughters, and a Pomeranian named Bowie. *The Boy Who Woke the Sun* is his first novel. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)



EVENTS: 05 | PAGE 14

MAX WYMAN | THE COMPASSIONATE IMAGINATION

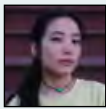


MAX WYMAN is one of Canada's foremost cultural commentators. *The Compassionate Imagination* is his seventh book on the arts in Canada. He is an Officer of the Order of Canada, a former member of the board of the Canada Council for the Arts, and a former President of the Canadian Commission for UNESCO. (BRITISH COLUMBIA)



EVENTS: 83 | PAGE 54

ADA ZHANG | THE SORROWS OF OTHERS



ADA ZHANG is a graduate of the Iowa Writers' Workshop. Her short stories have appeared in *A Public Space*, *McSweeney's*, *Alaska Quarterly Review*, and elsewhere. She is an associate editor at Running Press. In 2023, she was selected as a National Book Foundation 5 Under 35 Honoree. (USA)



EVENTS: 16 | PAGE 19 28 | PAGE 25

*Emerging Authors***Presented Thanks to the Support of RBC**

- Chelsea Wakelyn, *What Remains of Elsie Jane*
- William Ping, *Hollow Bamboo*
- Christine Estima, *The Syrian Ladies Benevolent Society*
- Kai Thomas, *In the Upper Country*
- Andrea Fritz, *Otter Doesn't Know*
- Jamaluddin Aram, *Nothing Good Ever Happens in Wazirabad on a Wednesday*
- Emi Sasagawa, *Atomweight*
- A.T. Woodley, *The Boy Who Woke the Sun*
- Alan Barillaro, *Where the Water Takes Us*
- Valerie Jerome, *Races*

2023 Festival *Moderators and Participants*

ELAMIN ABDELMARMOUD

ELAMIN ABDELMARMOUD is the 2023 Guest Curator for the Vancouver Writers Fest. A former writer for *BuzzFeed News*, his work has appeared in the *Globe and Mail*, *Maclean's*, *Rolling Stone*, and others. He is the author of the number one national bestseller *Son of Elsewhere: A Memoir in Pieces*.

CAROLINE ADDERSON

CAROLINE ADDERSON has won the Sheila Egoff Award and the Chocolate Lily Book Award, among others, for her books. She teaches in the Writing and Publishing Program at SFU and is the Program Director of the Writing Studio at the Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity.

NATHAN ADLER

NATHAN ADLER is a writer and artist who works in many different mediums, including audio, video, drawing, painting, and glass. His novel "Wrist", an Indigenous monster story, is published by Kegeedonce Press. He is a member of Lac Des Mille Lacs First Nation.

CARLEIGH BAKER

CARLEIGH BAKER is an author and teacher of nêhiyaw âpihtawikosisân (Cree-Métis) and European descent. Her debut story collection, *Bad Endings* (Anvil Press, 2017), won the City of Vancouver Book Award, and was a finalist for other awards. Her newest collection, *Last Woman*, is forthcoming (McClelland & Stewart, 2024).

DIONNE BRAND

DIONNE BRAND is a poet, novelist, and essayist. Her books include *Nomenclature*, her new and collected poems, *What we All Long For*, and *Theory*. She has won the Governor General's Literary Award and the Griffin Poetry Prize, among others. Brand is the Editorial Director of Alchemy.

ALISON BRODDLE

ALISON BRODDLE has spent the last several decades working for the CBC, and is currently the Senior Director of Current Affairs and Investigative, where she oversees network radio programming including special projects focused on reconciliation as well as climate change. She sits on the Vancouver Writers Fest Board of Directors.

CLAUDIA CASPER

CLAUDIA CASPER is the author of four novels, including *The Mercy Journals*, winner of the 2017 Philip K. Dick Award for distinguished science fiction, and *The Reconstruction*, which is being adapted for film. She has taught writing at Kwantlen Polytechnic University and been a long-time mentor for Vancouver Manuscript Intensive.

DAVID CHARIANDY

DAVID CHARIANDY is a writer and professor of literature at Simon Fraser University. He is the author of the novels *Soucouyant* and *Brother*. David's books have won the Roger's Writers' Trust Fiction Prize, the City of Toronto Book Prize, the Windham-Campbell Prize for fiction, and more.

KEVIN CHONG

KEVIN CHONG is the award-winning author of several books of fiction and nonfiction. His work has appeared in *The Guardian*, *The Rumpus*, and more. He is an associate professor at the University of British Columbia, Okanagan campus. *The Double Life of Benson Yu* is his latest book.

LISA CHRISTIANSEN

LISA CHRISTIANSEN is the reporter/editor for CBC Vancouver's *The Early Edition*. She is the co-host of the feminism and pop culture podcast *Pop This!* and a two time Polaris Music Prize grand juror.

JILLIAN CHRISTMAS

JILLIAN CHRISTMAS is an artist, creative facilitator, curator, consultant, and arts advocate. She is the long-time spoken word curator of the Vancouver Writers Fest, and former artistic director of Verses Festival of Words. She is the author of *The Gospel of Breaking*, *The Magic Shell*, and *My Sweet Baby Book*.

MOLLY CROSS-BLANCHARD

MOLLY CROSS-BLANCHARD is a white and Métis writer and editor born on Treaty 3 territory (Fort Frances, ON), raised on Treaty 6 territory (Prince Albert, SK), and living on the unceded territory of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh peoples (Vancouver, BC). She currently teaches Creative Writing at Kwantlen Polytechnic University.

JEN CURRIN

JEN CURRIN lives on unceded Qayqayt, Kwantlen, and Musqueam territories (New Westminster, BC) and teaches at Kwantlen Polytechnic University. Jen's story collection, *Hider/Seeker*, won a Canadian Independent Book Award. Jen's fifth poetry collection, *Trinity Street*, was released in April 2023.

MICHELLE CYCA

MICHELLE CYCA is the editor of Indigenous-led conservation coverage for *The Narwhal*, a contributing writer to *The Walrus*, and contributing editor to *Maclean's*. Previously, she was the co-publisher and editor-in-chief of SAD Mag. She is a member of the Muskeg Lake Cree Nation in Treaty 6.

OMAR EL AKKAD

OMAR EL AKKAD's writing has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Guardian*, and many other publications. His debut novel, *American War*, is an international bestseller and has been translated into thirteen languages. His second novel, *What Strange Paradise*, won the Giller Prize. He was the 2022 VWF Guest Curator.

D FRETTER

D FRETTER is a poet/spoken word artist living and operating on the unceded territory of the Semiahmoo Nation. His adoptive mother jokes that he's had a way with words since before he could talk. D has been described as a hip-hop Andrea Gibson or a philosophical Shel Silverstein.

MARGARET GALLAGHER

MARGARET GALLAGHER is the host of *North by Northwest*, BC's highest-rated weekend show. She was the host of CBC Radio One's *Hot Air*, and has been a regular part of *The Early Edition* since 2001. Her multiple awards include three prestigious National RTDNA Dave Rogers Awards for Best Radio Feature.

MATT GALLOWAY

MATT GALLOWAY is the host of *The Current* on CBC Radio One. He has been with CBC Radio for more than 15 years, and has anchored CBC Radio's coverage of the Olympic Games on several occasions.

ELEE KRALJII GARDINER

ELEE KRALJII GARDINER is a creative mentor, editor, and poet. She founded Thursdays Writing Collective, a non-profit organization of Downtown Eastside writers. She is the author of *Trauma Head*, which won the Fred Cogswell Award, and *serpentine loop*.

KATHRYN GRETSINGER

KATHRYN GRETSINGER is an associate professor of teaching at the School of Journalism, Writing, and Media. She is a long-time public broadcaster at the CBC, and has been named one of North America's top innovative journalism educators.

AISLINN HUNTER

AISLINN HUNTER is an award-winning novelist, poet, and educator, and the author of eight books including the novel *The Certainties* (Knopf 2020). She lives on the unceded lands of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh peoples.

ANOSH IRANI

ANOSH IRANI is a three-time finalist for the Governor General's Literary Award, and a two-time winner of the Dora Mavor Moore Award for Outstanding New Play. His novel *The Parcel* was named one of the best books of the year by the *Globe and Mail*, *The Walrus*, and the *National Post*.

ANNA LING KAYE

ANNA LING KAYE is a writer, editor, and columnist on CBC Radio. Her fiction has been shortlisted for the PEN Canada New Voices Prize and the Journey Prize, and received the 2021 RBC Bronwen Wallace Award.

FANNY KEARSE

fanny kearse is a Black-Jewish-Sapphic settler working towards land & relational justice. fanny wrote and self published their first book of poetry & prose, *umi's prayer*, which was released June 2023. fanny facilitates literary art workshops, sits on the Curtain Razors arts boards and produces events with Vines Art Society.

KIMMORTAL

KIMMORTAL aka Kim (they/them) is a multi hyphenate artist and musician. Their ancestry is from Pangasinan and Negros Occidental, Philippines. Combining their passion for hip hop, visual art, theatre, spoken word, ancestral wisdom, and liberation, Kimmortal is known for their multi-dimensional approach to music.

SARAH LEAVITT

SARAH LEAVITT is a cartoonist and educator. She's developed and taught comics classes at the UBC School of Creative Writing since 2012. Her books include *Tangles: A Story About Alzheimer's*, *My Mother and Me*; *Agnes, Murderess*; and *Something, Not Nothing*, forthcoming in fall 2024.

MARSHA LEDERMAN

MARSHA LEDERMAN is an award-winning journalist and author. She is columnist for *The Globe and Mail*, where she was previously Western Arts Correspondent for 15 years. Her bestselling memoir *Kiss the Red Stairs: The Holocaust, Once Removed* was published by McClelland & Stewart in 2022.

JARRETT MARTINEAU

JARRETT MARTINEAU is a leading voice in Indigenous music, media, and cultural production. He is Curator-in-Residence at the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts, and a Guest Curator for Indian Summer Festival. He hosts *Reclaimed*, the first-ever Indigenous music series on CBC Radio, and co-founded Vancouver's New Forms Festival.

ALEX MARZANO-LESNEVICH

ALEX MARZANO-LESNEVICH is the author of *The Fact of a Body*, which was translated into eleven languages and received several prizes. A 2023 United States Artists fellow, they are the Rogers Communications Chair in Creative Nonfiction at the University of British Columbia. Their next book, *Both and Neither*, is forthcoming.

TARA MCGUIRE

TARA MCGUIRE is a former broadcaster whose essays and poetry have appeared in several magazines. She is a graduate of The Writer's Studio at SFU and holds an MFA from the UBC School of Creative Writing. Her first book, *Holden, After and Before*, was published in 2022.

BENJAMIN MILLMAN

BENJAMIN MILLMAN is a pianist, producer, and multi instrumentalist hailing from Vancouver. Specializing in a large range of genres and instruments, Benjamin's performance credits are vast—you may have heard him leading Rnb, Funk, Pop or Jazz groups at countless Vancouver venues, or touring across Canada and the US.

MISSY D

MISSY D is a bilingual Hip Hop, Rap & Soul Artist who has been rapping since she was 11 years old in French and English coming from the 3 corners of the motherland (Rwanda, Côte d'Ivoire, Zimbabwe). Missy D's French EP entitled *Case Départ* was released in April 2022.

CECILY NICHOLSON

CECILY NICHOLSON is the author of four books and a recipient of the Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize and the Governor General's Literary Award for Poetry. She teaches at the School of Creative Writing, UBC and will be the 2024/2025 Holloway Lecturer in Poetry and Poetics at UC Berkeley.

SUSIN NIELSEN

SUSIN NIELSEN has written for many beloved Canadian TV shows, and is the author of multiple books. Her most recent novel, *No Fixed Address*, won the Red Maple Award, the Violet Downey Book Award, and the Sheila A. Goff Children's Literature Prize.

EM NIMETZ

EM NIMETZ is a multi-talented interdisciplinary artist, renowned as a poet, playwright, actor, singer, and movement artist. With a career on the stage, page, and screen, their work has been witnessed internationally. Em has published 5 chapbooks of poetry with a 6th to be released in 2024.

ALIX OHLIN

ALIX OHLIN is the author of six books, including the novels *Inside* and *Dual Citizens*, which were both finalists for the Scotiabank Giller Prize and the Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize. She chairs the creative writing program at the University of British Columbia.

A.E. OSWORTH

A.E. OSWORTH is a transgender novelist. Their debut, *We Are Watching Eliza Bright*, was a finalist for the Oregon Book Award and was long listed for The Center for Fiction's First Novel Prize, the Brooklyn Public Library Literary Prize, and The Tournament of Books. Their next novel, *Awakened* (2025), is forthcoming.

SHANNON OZIRNY

SHANNON OZIRNY is the Head of Youth Services at the West Vancouver Memorial Library. She has taught a children's materials course as an adjunct at the UBC iSchool, reviewed young adult books for *The Globe and Mail*, and contributes regularly to Quill & Quire as a feature reviewer of picture books.

CHRIS PATTERSON

CHRIS PATTERSON is an Associate Professor of Social Justice at The University of British Columbia, and an award-winning author of two academic books, two novels, and a prose-poetry work, *Nimrods*. He writes creatively under his matrilineal name, **KAWIKA GUILLERMO**.

FRANCE PERRAS

FRANCE PERRAS is a bilingual actress who works in Theatre, Voice-overs, Live Announcing, Hosting/Moderating, and has had the pleasure of moderating at Vancouver Writers Fest since 2004. She is a recipient of a few Jessie Richardson Theatre Awards, and works across the country in a variety of mediums.

ANDRÉ PICARD

ANDRÉ PICARD is the health columnist at *The Globe and Mail*, and the author of six bestselling non-fiction books, including *Matters of Life and Death* and *Neglected No More*. He lives in Vancouver.

SIRISH RAO

SIRISH RAO is an arts leader, writer, and cultural innovator. He is the co-founder of the Indian Summer Festival, and Director of Public Engagement and Learning at the Vancouver Art Gallery. Sirish is also a published writer, whose books have been translated into twenty languages.

CHRIS REED

CHRIS REED/CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST is an indigenous non-binary Drag performance artist and cultural event producer. They are Beardy's and Okemasis Cree and are a settler on the stolen lands of the *Txʷməθkʷəy̍əm* (Musqueam), *Skwxwú7mesh* (Squamish), and *Səlilwətaʔ/Selilwitulh* (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations. They co-founded the Vancouver production company, Queer Based Media.

BILL RICHARDSON

BILL RICHARDSON is the author of three picture books: *Last Week*, an illustrated children's book that sensitively portrays medical assistance in dying (MAiD); *Hare B&B*; and *Lola Flies Alone*. He is also the author of *I Saw Three Ships*, a collection of stories set in Vancouver's West End.

JAEI RICHARDSON

JAEI RICHARDSON is the executive director of the FOLD literary festival, the books columnist on CBC Radio's *q*, and an advocate on issues of diversity. She is the author of *The Stone Thrower: A Daughter's Lesson*, *a Father's Life*, and *Gutter Child*, a finalist for the Amazon Canada First Novel Award.

CARMEN RODRÍGUEZ

CARMEN RODRÍGUEZ is a bilingual (Spanish and English) Chilean-Canadian writer and educator. She is the author of *Guerra Prolongada/Protracted War*, a volume of poetry; *De cuerpo entero/and a body to remember with*, a collection of short stories; and the novels *Retribution* and *Atacama*. She lives in Vancouver.

JASMINE SEALY

JASMINE SEALY is a Barbadian-Canadian writer. Her debut novel, *The Island of Forgetting*, was published in 2022. It was shortlisted for the OCM Bocas Prize for Caribbean Literature and the Rakuten Kobo Emerging Writer Prize, and it won the Amazon Canada First Novel Award. She lives in Vancouver.

TROY SEBASTIAN |NUPQU ʔAK-ʔAM

TROY SEBASTIAN |nupqu ʔak-ʔam is a writer from the Ktunaxa community of ʔaqam. He is a doctoral student, Vanier Scholar and Sessional Instructor in the University of Victoria's Department of Writing. His story *The Mission* won the 2022 National Magazine Award Gold Prize for Fiction.

JAYE SIMPSON

jaye simpson is an Oji-Cree Saulteaux Indigiqueer from the Sapotaweyak Cree Nation. Their first poetry collection, *it was never going to be okay*, won the 2021 Indigenous Voices Award for Published Poetry in English. Their second collection, *a body more tolerable*, is forthcoming in 2024.

EDDY BOUDEL TAN

EDDY BOUDEL TAN is the author of two novels: *After Elias*, a finalist for the Edmund White Award and the ReLit Awards, and *The Rebellious Tide*, a finalist for the Ferro-Grumley Award. In 2021, he was named a Rising Star by Writers' Trust of Canada.

MADELEINE THIEN

MADELEINE THIEN is the author of four books, most recently *Do Not Say We Have Nothing*, which won the Giller Prize and Governor General's Literary Award, and was shortlisted for the Booker Prize. Her work has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *Granta*, *The New York Review of Books*, and elsewhere.

RHEA TREGEBOV

RHEA TREGEBOV is an award-winning poet and the author of two novels, *Rue des Rosiers* and *The Knife Sharpener's Bell*, and five children's books. She is Associate Professor Emerita at the School of Creative Writing at UBC. Her eighth collection of poetry, *Talking to Strangers*, will be published in 2024.

ELEANOR WACHTEL

ELEANOR WACHTEL was the host of CBC Radio's flagship literary program, *Writers & Company*, from 1990–2023. Throughout its 33-year run, the show won numerous awards and established Wachtel as one of the world's best interviewers. She is an Officer of the Order of Canada and has been awarded nine honorary degrees.

HAL WAKE

HAL WAKE has been engaged with books for over 30 years. He has conducted on-stage interviews with Alice Munro, Joseph Boyden, and Anne Michaels amongst many others, and hosted hundreds of literary events at Festivals across the world. He was the Artistic Director of the Vancouver Writers Fest for more than a decade.

HOLMAN WANG

HOLMAN WANG is the author of 17 books for children, including the board book series *Cozy Classics* and *Star Wars Epic Yarns*, created with his twin brother Jack. Holman's solo picture books are *Great Job, Mom!* and *Great Job, Dad!* He is a lawyer and a former Vancouver Writers Fest Board Member.

SHERYDA WARRENER

SHERYDA WARRENER is a poet, editor and teacher, most recently the author of *Test Piece*. Her work has been published in the *Malahat Review*, *Maisonneuve*, and *Hazlitt*, among other journals. She teaches poetry and interdisciplinary forms in the School of Creative Writing at the University of British Columbia.

ROBERT J. WIERSEMA

ROBERT J. WIERSEMA is the author of three novels, a novella, a short story collection, and a book of nonfiction. He is one of Canada's most recognized book reviewers, with work in *The Toronto Star*, *The Globe and Mail*, and *National Post*, among others. He teaches creative writing at Vancouver Island University.

SHIRAROSE WILENSKY

SHIRAROSE WILENSKY is an editor at House of Anansi Press, where she specializes in literary upmarket fiction and narrative non-fiction by BIPOC, LGBTQ2S+, and emerging writers. A winner of the Editors Canada Tom Fairley Award, she has worked for Arsenal Pulp Press, Greystone Books, Douglas & McIntyre, and Harbour Publishing.

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