

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

**\*\*\* HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM ALL OF US AT THE LEAGUE OFFICE \*\*\***

*The League office will be closed for the holidays from December 24, 2009 – January 4, 2010.*

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Dear friends and members,

We have been enjoying spring-like weather here in Toronto this past October and November, but now here we are looking forward to the season of comfort and the winter holidays.

As we are wrapping things up before the festivities begin, we'd like to inform you that our venue for the 2010 Poetry Conference has been confirmed-it will be held at 89 Chestnut, downtown Toronto, June 11-13<sup>th</sup>. For more information about the conferencing centre, you can check the website at: <http://www.89chestnut.com/>.

We want to thank everyone who sent in themes for National Poetry Month. We have received many wonderful submissions, and had many discussions. The theme will be announced in the few weeks.

Wishing you a very happy and joyful holiday season, from the League of Canadian Poets staff.

**JANUARY 31 DEADLINE- CANADA POETRY TOURS**

A reminder to all the poets and hosts that would like to apply for Canada Poetry Tours funding for readings taking place between April 1, 2009 and September 30, 2009. The deadline is January 31, 2009. For the complete guidelines, application forms and more info: <http://www.poets.ca/linktext/programs.htm>

**NEW MEMBERS**

A warm welcome to new members of the League! If you would like to have a member page on the League's website, please fill out the online form, available here: <http://poets.ca/linktext/fullup.htm>. Photos for your member page and a short bio for St@nz@ (150 words or less) can be sent to Monique at [readings@poets.ca](mailto:readings@poets.ca)

**NEWS FROM THE FEMINIST CAUCUS**

By Anne Burke, Chair. This has been a very busy month for the Fem Caucus, with papers and electronic documents shipped to the National Library and Archives; and plans for what would have been Pat Lowther's 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Toby Brooks, her biographer, has committed to join the panel on Lowther and Chris Lowther, Pat's daughter, was invited. Joanna has plans for a book of poems, designed in house, for a possible event at Harbourfront. There will be a tribute to Pat Lowther at the upcoming Poetry Festival and agm in Toronto. Invitations have gone out to the past winners yesterday, with acceptances from M. Travis Lane and Alice Major, by return email. For full report: [www.poets.ca/linktext/newsletter](http://www.poets.ca/linktext/newsletter)

**CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR RE:VERSE E-ZINE. THEME: FREEDOM OF OBSESSION**

As we pass from the massive candy haul of Halloween to the overload of gifts in Christmas, it's all about excess. It seems that the colder the months get, the harder we try to cram ourselves full of good cheer, generosity, and just a little bit of selfish hedonism. For this challenge I want you to write about excess, seasonal or otherwise. Write about your own personal excess, something you just can't get enough of, something you can't seem to stop doing, something that drives you crazy, something you can't stop thinking about. Write about your obsession...or the obsessions of others. Is there something that everybody can't stop talking about that you just don't get?

Someone told me that a poet should saturate him or herself in whatever subject he or she desires. Allow yourself to be excessive with time, with knowledge, with the detail present in every moment. As a poet, you have the right to freedom of obsession. Submissions are due December 30!

For more info or to send in submissions: Amy Carlberg, English Editor, Re:verse E-zine at [reverse@youngpoets.ca](mailto:reverse@youngpoets.ca), Website: [www.youngpoets.ca/ezine](http://www.youngpoets.ca/ezine)

## THE PUBLIC LENDING RIGHT

The Public Lending Right program's registration period will be open from 15 February to 1 May 2010. Are you registered?

**Yes.** If you have moved recently, you must update your address with the PLR Commission. Send us your change of address by mail, fax, telephone or e-mail, indicated below.

**No.** If you are an author, co-author, editor, translator, illustrator, photographer or anthology contributor, you may be eligible for a PLR payment for the service of your books held in Canadian public libraries. For further information, visit our website at [www.plr-dpp.ca](http://www.plr-dpp.ca) or contact us by using one of the methods indicated below.

For more info: Public Lending Right Commission / Commission du droit du prêt public, 350 Albert, P.O. Box 1047 / C.P. 1047, Ottawa ON, K1P 5V8. Tel: 1 800 521-5721 or Fax: (613) 566-4418 or E-mail: [plr@canadacouncil.ca](mailto:plr@canadacouncil.ca) or [www.plr-dpp.ca](http://www.plr-dpp.ca)

## CULTURAL HUMAN RESOURCES COUNCIL RELEASES REPORT ON THE EFFECT OF THE RECESSION ON CANADA'S CULTURE SECTOR

"The global recession is expected to reduce revenues for cultural enterprises by approximately \$3.1 billion in 2009". This is one of the findings of "The Effect of the Global Economic Recession on Canada's Creative Economy in 2009," a report prepared by The Conference Board of Canada for the Cultural Human Resources Council (CHRC) that measures the impact of the current recession on the cultural sector.

Traditional culture sector revenue streams such as business advertising, endowments, and municipal funding have been eroded due to the weak economy and the steep decline in stock markets. Cultural industries have felt the pinch. For example, the report highlights the fact that written media and broadcasting which depend heavily on business advertising are expected to see real revenues fall by 6.1 per cent and 4.8 per cent respectively. In terms of earnings, the report estimates that the global recession will reduce average employment earnings of workers in the culture sector by 2.2 per cent in 2009. The report also notes that the number of self-employed workers in creative and artistic production occupations is expected to grow while revenues fall. As a result, real employment earnings for workers in these occupations (including the self-employed and employees) are expected to fall by 3.5 per cent, on average.

The report is sprinkled with current examples of how the global recession is compounding the challenges facing the cultural sector. For example, one of Canada's largest media companies recently laid-off over 500 workers, and filed for creditor protection because of declining advertising revenues and reduced operating profits; and cultural organizations are announcing staff cuts to counter lower sponsorship dollars, shortfalls at the box office, and poor fundraising results.

The report is the first in a series of three reports that the Conference Board is working on for CHRC, the other two being: a Labour Market Information report for the cultural sector (to be released in December 2009); and an identification and analysis of Human Resource issues and trends in the cultural sector (to be released in June 2010). The report is available on [CHRC's website](#).

## WINNERS OF 2008 GOVERNOR GENERAL'S LITERARY AWARDS ANNOUNCED

The names of winners of the 2009 Governor General's Literary Awards were announced today by the Canada Council for the Arts. The seven English and seven French awards are given to authors, illustrators and translators in the categories of fiction, poetry, drama, non-fiction, children's literature (text and illustration) and translation. Winners:

- Fiction: Kate Pullinger, London (UK) [originally from Cranbrook, British Columbia], *The Mistress of Nothing*. (McArthur & Company; distributed by the publisher); Julie Mazzieri, Velone-Orneto (France) [originally from Saint-Paul-de-Chester, Quebec], *Le discours sur la tombe de l'idiot*. (Éditions José Corti; distributed by Diffusion Dimédia)
- Poetry: David Zieroth, North Vancouver, *The Fly in Autumn*. (Harbour Publishing; distributed by the publisher); Hélène Monette, Montreal, *Thérèse pour joie et orchestre*. (Les Éditions du Boréal; distributed by Diffusion Dimédia)
- Drama: Kevin Loring, Vancouver, *Where the Blood Mixes* (Talonbooks; distributed by Publishers Group Canada); Suzanne Lebeau, Montreal, *Le bruit des os qui craquent*. (Leméac Éditeur; distributed by Socadis)
- Children's Literature – Caroline Pignat, Ottawa, *Greener Grass: The Famine Years*. (Red Deer Press, a division of Fitzhenry & Whiteside; distributed by the publisher); Hervé Bouchard, Saguenay (Quebec), *Harvey*. (Les Éditions de la Pastèque; distributed by Socadis)

- Children's Literature – Illustration: Jirina Marton, Colborne (Ontario), *Bella's Tree*, text by Janet Russell. (Groundwood Books / House of Anansi Press; distributed by HarperCollins Canada); Janice Nadeau, Montreal, *Harvey*, text by Hervé Bouchard. (Les Éditions de la Pastèque; distributed by Socadis)
- Translation- Susan Ouriou, Calgary, *Pieces of Me.* (Kids Can Press; distributed by University of Toronto Press) English translation of *La liberté? Connais pas...* by Charlotte Gingras (Les éditions de la courte échelle) ; Paule Noyart, Bromont (Quebec), *Le miel d'Harar.* (Leméac Éditeur / Actes Sud; distributed by Socadis) French translation of *Sweetness in the Belly* by Camilla Gibb (Anchor Canada)

To see the rest of the awards winners, visit [www.canadacouncil.ca](http://www.canadacouncil.ca)

### **WRITERS' TRUST AWARDS SWEEP BY BRITISH COLUMBIA AUTHORS ANNABEL LYON, BRIAN BRETT, AND YASUKO THANH TAKE TOP PRIZES**

The Writers' Trust of Canada announced the winners of \$127,000 in prizes for literature in the fiction, non-fiction, and short fiction categories. The event, at the Isabel Bader Theatre in Toronto, is one of the richest awards nights for literature in Canada.

- The Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize (\$25,000)  
Winner: Annabel Lyon (Vancouver) for *The Golden Mean*, published by Random House Canada
- The Writers' Trust Non-Fiction Prize (\$25,000)  
Winner: Brian Brett (Salt Spring Island, British Columbia) for *Trauma Farm: A Rebel History of Rural Life*, published by Greystone Books.
- The Writers' trust of Canada/McClelland & Stewart Journey (\$10,000)  
Winner: Yasuko Thanh (Victoria) for "Floating like the Dead," published in *Vancouver Review*
- The Writers' Trust Most Notable Author (\$25,000)  
Winner: David Bergen (Winnipeg)
- The Vicky Metcalf Award for Children's (\$20,000)  
Winner: Marthe Jocelyn (Stratford, Ontario)
- The Writers' Trust Award for Distinguished Contribution  
Winner: Politics and the Pen Committee

The Writers' Trust of Canada is a charitable organization that supports Canadian writers and writing through various programs, including literary awards, financial grants, workshops, scholarships, and a writers' retreat.

For writers' biographies, complete jury citations, information about the Writers' Trust, and a chance to win a set of this year's nominated titles, visit [writerstrust.com](http://writerstrust.com)

### **STARNINO WINS THE A.M. KLEIN PRIZE FOR POETRY**

Gaspereau Press is pleased to announce that Carmine Starnino's poetry collection, *This Way Out* has won the A.M. Klein Prize for Poetry. The A.M. Klein Prize for Poetry is sponsored by Jacques Nolin and awarded by the Quebec Writers' Federation. The prize is granted each year to an English-language poet residing in the province of Quebec. The award was presented at the Quebec Writers' Federation's Awards Gala on November 17, 2009, at the Lion D'or, Montreal.

Carmine Starnino's latest collection of poems, *This Way Out*, is full of lyrical escapes, exits and embarkations that set out to measure degrees of belonging and proximity to being at home. With his close attention to sound and ease of comparison, Starnino tries on voices and costumes for size, revisiting his childhood stomping grounds and current neighbourhood bars, reliving teenage haircuts and marveling at the skill of the local butcher. Counterbalancing his own search for place, Starnino delights in locating in other people and favourite objects their aptitude for simply being themselves. Carmine Starnino is a poet, essayist, critic and editor of Signal Editions, the poetry imprint at Véhicule Press. His collection, *With English Subtitles* (GP, 2004), won the A.M. Klein Prize for Poetry and the 2006 Bressani Prize. *This Way Out* was shortlisted for the Governor General's Literary Award in 2009. Starnino lives in Montreal.

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

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

### **2010 GRIFFIN POETRY PRIZE ENTRY DEADLINE REMINDER**

This is a reminder that the deadline for the \$100,000 2009 Griffin Poetry Prize is approaching. Books must be submitted postmarked no later than December 31, 2009 for books published between January 1 and December 31, 2009. Please remember to complete all necessary customs/duties paperwork when shipping your entries to ensure delays are avoided. If you have any questions regarding the rules or would like to download an entry form, please visit our Web site, at: [www.griffinpoetryprize.com](http://www.griffinpoetryprize.com).

## **1<sup>ST</sup> BOOK COMPETITION CELEBRATES ITS TEN YEAR ANNIVESERARY**

The Writer's Studio of the Writing and Publishing Program at Simon Fraser University celebrates its tenth year with the 1st Book Competition, in collaboration with Anvil Press. We're looking for original, book-length manuscripts (one winner each in the categories of creative nonfiction, fiction, and poetry), written in English by emerging Canadian writers who have not previously published a book. Submissions will be judged anonymously and upon merit alone. Judges' decisions are final. No electronic submissions. Entry fee \$55. Manuscripts must be postmarked before May 31, 2010. Complete entry requirements and entry form will be available after December 1, 2009 at: [www.thewritersstudio.ca](http://www.thewritersstudio.ca).

## **FREEFALL PROSE AND POETRY CONTEST- DEADLINE DECEMBER 31<sup>ST</sup>**

FreeFall is pleased to announce that Robyn Sarah will be the guest editor for this contest issue. Robyn is an award winning author of both poetry and short fiction.

- 1st Prize (Fiction & Poetry) \$300
- 2nd Prize (Fiction & Poetry) \$150
- 3rd Prize (Fiction & Poetry) \$75

Winners will be published in Volume XX Number 1.

Entry fee: \$20.00 (includes one year subscription), AWCS Members \$10.00,

Additional entries \$5.00 (at time of original entry only)

Maximum 3000 words prose, or 5 poems per entry.

Mailed entries must be received on or before December 31st, 2009, and be accompanied by the completed entry form and fee. Enter On Line at our website up till midnight December 31, 2009

For more info and entry forms, please visit: [www.freefallmagazine.ca](http://www.freefallmagazine.ca)

## **BC BOOK PRIZES 2009**

The BC Book Prizes, including The Lieutenant Governor's Award for Literary Excellence, are presented annually at the Lieutenant Governor's BC Book Prize Gala in April. The awards carry a cash prize of \$2000 plus a certificate. The exception is the Lieutenant Governor's Award for Literary Excellence, which is a separate prize category. All books and entry fees must be received by December 15. Books published in December remain eligible, but entry forms must be submitted by the December 1 deadline, and books received no later than January 15 (or the next business day if this date falls on a weekend). Books received after this date will be deemed ineligible, and their eligibility will not be carried into the next calendar year. No exceptions will be made under any circumstances. All completed submission forms must be accompanied by three (3) copies of the book, plus \$30 entry fee (per entry). If you enter the same book in multiple categories, you will need to include three (3) copies of the book and an additional \$30 entry fee for each category the title is entered in. Please print the submission form confirmation to include with books and entry fee.

Send to: West Coast Book Prize Society, #902 – 207 W. Hastings Street, Vancouver, BC V6B 1H7

More info: Tel (604) 687-2405, Fax (604) 687-2435 [info@bcbookprizes.ca](mailto:info@bcbookprizes.ca)

## **THE CANADIAN AUTHORS ASSOCIATION POETRY AWARD**

The Canadian Authors Association is currently accepting submissions for their annual CAA Poetry Award. The award is for a volume of poetry by one poet. The deadline for submissions is December 15, 2009.

The CAA Award for Poetry was funded by Harlequin Enterprises of Toronto from 1975 to 1997. From 1998 to 2005, it was funded by a member of the CAA who chooses to remain anonymous. For 2006, it was funded collectively by a number of CAA members. The 2007 award was temporarily funded by a member of the CAA who chooses to remain anonymous. Likewise the 2008 CAA Award for Poetry will be funded by two CAA members who wish to remain anonymous.

The nominations deadline is December 15th each year. Entries should be postmarked by that date, except for works published after December 1st, in which case they must be postmarked no later than January 15th in the following year. The Writing Awards Guidelines contains specific entry information, or you may contact the CAA National Office.

More info: E-mail: [admin@canauthors.org](mailto:admin@canauthors.org), Phone: (705) 653-0323, Toll-free: 1 866 216 6222

Website: <http://www.canauthors.org/awards/poetry.html>

\*\*\*\*\* Events, Workshops & Readings \*\*\*\*\*

## **THE MERCURY PRESS FALL LAUNCH, TORONTO**

A Celebration of New Titles:

Hearing, and answering with music, poetry by Guy Ewing  
missing persons, a novel by rob mclennan

The October Five, a mystery by Mobashar Qureshi  
Herbie Nichols: A Jazzist's Life, by Mark Miller  
*Time and Anthony Braxton*, by Stuart Broomer  
No cover. Brief readings by the authors and live jazz by Scott Thomson and Kyle Brenders.

Event info: Supermarket, 268 Augusta Avenue (south of College, west of Spadina)  
Tuesday, December 1, 7:30 p.m.

### **ROWERS PUB READING SERIES, TORONTO**

The Rowers Pub Reading Series, which runs the first Wednesday of every month, celebrates the recent release of *The Best Canadian Poetry in English* [Tightrope Books], and has as its December features four poets from the anthology:

John Reibetanz; Karen Solie; Ricardo Sternberg; and, John Terpstra.

Event: Harbord House (150 Harbord Street, 2nd floor (647) 430-7365  
7:30 p.m.

Free - a hat is passed.

For more information please visit [rowerspubreadingseries.com](http://rowerspubreadingseries.com)

### **GUERNICA LAUNCH: SUSAN C HENETTE, MELANIE JANISSE & SANDY POOL, TORONTO**

Guernica Editions is pleased to invite you to the launch of three new poetry titles:

*Slender Human Weight* by Sue Chenette (Essential Poets Series)

*Orioles in the Oranges* by Melanie Janisse (First Poets Series)

*Exploding Into Night* by Sandy Pool (First Poets Series)

Join us at [Bar Italia](#), 582 College Street [[map](#)], Toronto, Ontario, (416) 535-3621, on Sunday, 6 December 2009, 2:00 - 4:00 PM. RSVP through Facebook is optional but appreciated: <http://bit.ly/2xdTRW>. The event is open to the public, so please forward this invitation to anyone you think would like to attend. Our launches are widely attended by the greater community, and we'd love to see you there!

### **BOOK LAUNCH: BIANCA LAKOSELJAC & ALBERT DUMONT, TORONTO**

Join the authors, Bianca Lakoseljac and Albert Dumont, in celebrating the launch of their new books of poetry. Please come and enjoy a Sunday afternoon of literary pleasures. Everyone welcome!

Sunday, December 20, 2009 at 3 p.m.

Yellow Griffin Pub

2202 Bloor St. W. (near Runnymede subway stop), Toronto, ON

R.S.V.P. [tmbooklaunch@rogers.com](mailto:tmbooklaunch@rogers.com)

### **A VERY CHRISTIAN CHRISTMAS: CHRISTIAN BÖK TRIBUTE, TORONTO**

Why watch a holiday special on television when you can watch one live, on stage? Bestselling and Griffin Poetry Prize-winning poet Christian Bök will be in Toronto to celebrate the publication of *Eunoia: The Upgraded Edition*. *Eunoia* is one of the bestselling books of Canadian poetry, and won the Griffin Poetry Prize upon its publication. It is a five-chapter book in which each chapter is a univocal lipogram. (So Chapter A only uses the vowel 'A,' Chapter E only uses 'E,' etc.) More recently, the book was just released in the U.K., where it became an overnight sensation -- selling out of its print run within a week, and appearing in the *Times*' top ten books of 2008. He was also the subject of a much-requested interview on BBC's *Today* show.

December 15th, Mr. Bök and his band of merry elves – including merrymakers Ken Babstock, Andrew Pyper, Russell Smith, Priscila Uppal and Darren Wershler – will send you off to your holiday vacations in style, with readings, anecdotes and tributes to *Eunoia* and the man who wrote it. Come by Supermarket (262 Augusta Avenue) after 7:30 p.m., wear your yuletide best, knock back some egg nog and pick up a copy of the upgraded *Eunoia*, a perfect stocking stuffer and a book *Publishers Weekly* calls 'jaw-droppingly powerful, a mythology Event info: Tuesday, December 15, Supermarket, 262 Augusta Avenue, Toronto, 7:30 p.m.

### **POETIC NIGHTS, TORONTO**

First Thursday of every month. An open stage with readings by Trish Kerr and Steve Han and musical guest Bruce Milar. Co-hosted by Kate Ryan and Patrick Sullivan. Bring your own food and drink, supper club atmosphere.

Event info: Lucsculpture School and Studio, 663 Greenwood Ave (at Greenwood Subway Station)  
[lucsculpture@sympatico.ca](mailto:lucsculpture@sympatico.ca) or (416) 461-7936

### **THE YELLOW DOOR POETRY AND PROSE SERIES, MONTREAL**

An evening of Poetry, Prose & Music with Stephen Morrissey, Susan McMaster, rob mclennan, Julie Keith, Jon Paul Fiorentino, Michael Mirolla, Ilona Martonfi and Marie France Bancel.

Thursday, December 3, 2009. Doors 7:00 pm, Readings 7:30 pm, \$5 At the door

The Yellow Door, 3625 Aylmer, Montreal (between Pine & Prince Arthur)

More info: Founder, producer/host Ilona Martonfi: (514) 845-2600

[www.yellowdoor.org/poetryprose.html](http://www.yellowdoor.org/poetryprose.html)

### **FERN G. Z. CARR READING AND ANTHOLOGY LAUNCH, MONTREAL**

Concordia University has invited Fern G. Z. Carr to read her poetry in Montreal. This is in conjunction with their Soliloquies Anthology launch event at Les Trois Minots on Sunday, Dec. 6 at 8:00 pm.

### **BOOK LAUNCH: CATHERINE OWEN *FRENZY*, WINNEPEG**

Fire Press presents readings by poet, musician and singer Catherine Owen, with local writers Katherine Bitney and Deborah Schnitzer. Owen has published numerous books of poetry and is touring her most recent book called *Frenzy*, in which she pays homage to the muse.

Event info: Thursday, December 10. Prairie Readings starts at 7:00 PM and are free to the public.

McNally Robinson Booksellers' Grant Park location (travel alcove).

### **THE VANCOUVER POETRY SLAM- QUALIFYING SLAMS, VANCOUVER**

December 7th we will be having the first of our three qualifying slams for December...and this one will be featuring the fabulous Will Evans. William Evans is a writer, instructor and performer from Columbus, OH. As the founder of the Writing Wrongs Poetry Slam (September '08), William has created the largest weekly poetry open mic currently operating in the city. William also founded the Upwords Youth Poetry Slam in Columbus, OH in addition to hosting the first ever Columbus All District High School Poetry Slam in April 2009.

As an artist, William is one the most successful performance poets to come from Columbus and the state of Ohio as a whole. He is currently the 11th ranked performance poet in the world according to Poetry Slam Inc as a Finalist at the 2009 Individual World Poetry Slam (IWPS). He has been a member of a Columbus National Poetry Slam team four consecutive years (winning the Grand Slam twice) as well as being a representative for the IWPS in Vancouver, 2007. He would finish 22nd out of 72 international competing poets during the competition. He has also shared the stage with iconic notables such as Chuck D, Cornell West and Sonia Sanchez. Again, this is the first of the three qualifying slams for December and should be a phenomenal show!!!

December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Doors and Sign Up are at 8:00 PM

The open mic begins at 8:45 PM

and the slam starts at 9:00 PM

The cover as always is \$5-10

Where: Café Deux Soleils, 2096 Commercial Drive

More info: <http://vancouverpoetryhouse.com/>

### **BRICK BOOKS - READINGS FOR DECEMBER**

- Ottawa: Saturday, December 6 - Courting Excellence: An Intimate Evening with Four Award-Winning Authors - Elizabeth Hay, Mark Frutkin, Frances Itani, Monty Reid. Hosted by Ken Rockburn. Arts Court Theatre, 2 Daly Avenue, Ottawa. Co-production of the Tree Reading Series and the City of Ottawa. Reception at 7 p.m., readings at 8 p.m.
- Montreal: Tuesday, December 9 – Susan Elmslie - Reading from *I*, *Nadja* and *Other Poems* in Montreal - at 8:00 p.m. in Montreal for the Poetry Plus series: Arts Café, 201 Fairmount W (corner Esplanade), 514-939-5670.

### **GATHER YOUR NUTZ! A PRE-CHRISTMAS POETRY & MUSIC EXTRAVAGANZA**

Weyman Chan, Ivan E. Coyote, Kris Demeanor, Suzette Mayr, Teekay from Dragon Fli Empire and Sheri-D Wilson. Tuesday, December 02, 2008 – 8:00 pm - \$5 at the Auburn Saloon, #163 115 9th Ave SE, Calgary, AB. Host: Cory Mack. Buy Canadian! Buy Calgarian! A special holiday reading that'll make you see-through snow: into the magic of Christmas, ho ho ho. 'Tis the season and the Calgary Spoken Word Society is gathering its nutZ on one stage! This is your chance to take in the festivities by enjoying some of the most amazing Spoken Word and musical talent this country has to offer.

2008 Governor General's Award finalist, Calgary poet Weyman Chan joins storytelling favorite, Ivan E. Coyote,

singer-songwriter Kris Demeanor, award-winning novelist Suzette Mayr, and the Mama of Dada herself, Sheri-D Wilson. Tarik Robinson (aka Teekay) from upbeat musical duo-on-the-rise: Dragon Fli Empire, will infuse the Auburn with melodies-and-more for the evening! A one-night holiday jamboree of rare poetic forces at Calgary's cultural hotspot – the Auburn Saloon. Come join us in celebration of poetry, light, jingling bells, and blunt touches of creative madness. The uproarious comedy magic of Calgarian Cory Mac hosts this event, providing you with a great opportunity to buy your loved ones unique Christmas presents from the Canadian artists that inspire you year-round. For info: Caro at 403.686.4292 .

\*\*\*\* New Members \*\*\*\*

### LIISA LADOUCEUR

Liisa Ladouceur lives in Toronto where she writes about music and horror for a living and poetry for life. She is a member of the gothically inclined Royal Sarcophagus Society collective, for which she has edited the anthology *Nuit Blanche: Poems for Late Nights* and curates literary/art special events. She likes to read aloud and has performed across North America on the Perpetual Motion Roadshow tour and in many Toronto venues from Harbourfront to the Bloor Cinema to a Cloud Garden. A former zine editor, her culture reporting has been widely published, she has been a regular contributor to *MuchMoreMusic*, CBC Radio and the like and she can be heard weekly on the all-horror podcast *Rue Morgue Radio*. Her first poetry collection, *On Tenterhooks*, was published by Burning Effigy Press in 2008. She is currently completing a manuscript of pop music-inspired glosas. [www.therss.com/liisa](http://www.therss.com/liisa)

### ILONA MARTONFI

Ilona Martonfi *Blue Poppy*, a first book of poems, published with Coracle Press, 2009. Published Coracle Press chapbook, *Visiting the Ridge* (2004). Martonfi's poems have appeared in *Vallum*, *Carte Blanche*, *Headlight Anthology*, *Accenti*, *Bibliosofia*, (Italy), *Arcade*, *Helios*, *Serai*, *Carve*, *Soliloquies*, *Fire With Water*, *Sun Through The Blinds: Montreal Haiku Today*, *Poets Against War*, *Poets Against War Canada*, forthcoming in *The Fiddlehead*. Finalist 2007 Quebec Writing Competition. Published story, "My Daughter, Marisa," in *CBC Story Anthology III*, *In Other Words: New English Writing from Quebec* (Véhicule Press, 2008). Poet, editor, educator, creative writing teacher. Founder, producer/host of *The Yellow Door* and *Visual Arts Centre Poetry and Prose Readings*. Co-founder, producer/host of the annual *Lovers & Others*.

### PATRICK M. PILARSKI

Patrick M. Pilarski is the co-editor of *DailyHaiku*, an international journal of contemporary English-language haiku, and poetry editor for its new sister publication, *DailyHaiga*. He is the author of *Huge Blue* (Leaf Press, 2009) and the chapbook *Five Weeks* (2007). Patrick's poetry has appeared in journals and anthologies across North America, Europe, Australia, and Japan, recently including *The Antigonish Review*, *Literary Review of Canada*, *Modern Haiku*, *The New Quarterly*, *PRISM international*, and on CBC Radio One as part of the CBC Poetry Face-off. His recent performance credits include *WordFest: the Calgary-Banff International Writers Festival*, *The Edmonton Poetry Festival*, and *The Roar: Spoken Word Festival*. Patrick lives in Edmonton with his partner, poet Nicole Pakan.

### PIERRETTE REQUIER

Pierrette Requier, *Wind Eye Poetry Seminar* facilitator, and long time member of the *Stroll of Poets Society of Edmonton, Alberta*, as well as member of the French writing and performing group *4 voix/4 voies* writes in a studio overlooking her garden in that liminal space between two languages. She has read her poems and performed her monologues in both French and English in venues across Alberta, including schools. She aspires to attend festivals across Canada as well as in France. Pierrette enjoys collaborations with musicians and visual artists.

### DAVID SILVERBERG

David Silverberg has been involved in Canada's spoken word community since 2001. He founded *Suburban Spoken Word* in North York, Ontario, and then created *Toronto Poetry Slam*, where he currently serves as host and artistic director. He is part of the Toronto poetry troupe *Last Call Poets* ([myspace.com/lastcallpoets](http://myspace.com/lastcallpoets)), and his most recent book of poetry is *Bags of Wires* (LyricalMyrical). He has performed across Canada, including Calgary, Halifax, Victoria, Vancouver, Ottawa, London and Montreal. David is the editor of Canada's first spoken word anthology, *Mic Check* (Quattro Press). He recently competed in the CBC Poetry Faceoff competition in Toronto at Hugh's Room. He has also been a feature performer/lecturer at the *Influency Salon Series* run out of the University of Toronto.

**SUSAN TELFER**

Susan Telfer lives with her husband and three children in Gibsons, BC and teaches high school English and Social Studies. Her poems have been published in literary journals across Canada. House Beneath is her first book.

**VINCENT TINGUELY**

Vincent Tinguely is a Montreal writer and poet. His work has recently appeared in Four Minutes to Midnight no. 10, Canadian Poetry no. 64, and two prose anthologies: The Portable Conundrum and The Art of Trespassing. He is the co-author of Impure — Reinventing the word, a book about the Montreal spoken word scene. He frequently writes about spoken word and literary events for the free weekly Montreal Mirror. His blog is illimitable reality wreck <http://vintin.wordpress.com/>

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

**FERN G. Z. CARR**

Concordia University has invited Fern G. Z. Carr to read her poetry in Montreal. This is in conjunction with their Soliloquies Anthology launch event at Les Trois Minots on Sunday, Dec. 6 at 8:00 pm.

**CATHERINE OWEN**

Tour dates for *Frenzy*:

- December 1st - The Ship Pub- St John's with George Murray
  - 6th - Edmonton launch party at the Underdog 7-9 pm with Thom Golub.
  - 10th - McNally Robinson - Winnipeg - solo
  - 11th - Aqua Books - Winnipeg - solo with interview
  - 14th - Swans - Victoria with Denis Bolen and Soressa Gardner
  - 16th - Vancouver launch party - Cafe Montmartre with DB, SG and Chika Marston.
  - Jan 7th: Calgary at the Flywheel Series with guests
- plus random radio interviews along the way in Vancouver (September 29th), Toronto, Fredericton and Halifax. and a print interview in Prairie Books Now from Winnipeg.

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