

# The Toronto Literary Calendar

## December 2009

To submit a free event listing, please send event details to [wordlistings@hotmail.com](mailto:wordlistings@hotmail.com).  
Listings for the January 2010 issue are due by December 15.

### Tues., December 1

READING: The 55th edition of Strong Words, the monthly reading series, will also be the last at the Gladstone Art Bar, bringing a sad but amicable end to four wonderful years of working together. We're going out with a bang, and we hope you can join us! The night will feature readers Erika Rummel, Timothy Quinn, Doc Pickles and Kate Carraway. As per usual, we ask that attendees bring donations of new/used books in resale condition for the Toronto Public Library's Book Ends program. The Gladstone Art Bar, 1214 Queen St. W., 7:30pm, PWYC, [www.strong-words.ca](http://www.strong-words.ca), [www.tpl.toronto.on.ca](http://www.tpl.toronto.on.ca).

READING: Clara Blackwood, Dane Swan and Andrea Jarmai feature tonight at The Art Bar Poetry Series. Open mic. Clinton's, 693 Bloor St. W., 8pm, pass-the-hat donation, [www.artbar.org](http://www.artbar.org).

READING: Brockton Writers Series hosts readings and neighbourly chat with local writers. This month Rose Cullis, Jasmine D'Costa and Aisha Sasha John. Books for sale! Zoots Cafe, 1438 Dundas St. W., 7-9pm, free.

### Wed., December 2

READING: Pivot Readings at the Press Club features Lauren Kirshner, Bill Howell and Jeff Parker. The Press Club, 850 Dundas St. W., 8pm, PWYC, visit [pivotreadings.wordpress.com](http://pivotreadings.wordpress.com) for more info.

READING: The eh List Reading Series at North York Central Library welcomes Michael Wex, author of *Born to Kvetch* and *Just Say Nu*. Wex will be reading from his fun new work, *How to Be a Mentsh*. Q&A follows the reading. North York Central Library, Auditorium, 5120 Yonge St., 7pm, free, [www.tpl.toronto.on.ca](http://www.tpl.toronto.on.ca), call to register at 416-395-5660.

### Thurs., December 3

BOOK CLUB: Beaches Book Club meets at the Beaches Library the first Thursday of every month. Our December selection is Marina Endicott's *Good to a Fault*. Visit the website for full schedule. Everyone is welcome. Beaches Branch, 2161 Queen St. E., 7-8:15pm, free, [www.tpl.toronto.on.ca](http://www.tpl.toronto.on.ca).

### Sat., December 5

WORKSHOP: Marnie Woodrow leads Women Writing Men/Men Writing Women, a workshop where we ask questions of gender and its representation in literature. What does it mean to be a "woman," a "man"? Who are the most memorable heroes and heroines of fiction and does gender have anything to do with their cachet? And how do you as author of this or that gender write a credible character if you don't share their official chromosome count, or if you yourself identify someplace in between traditional gender lines or, conversely, if you have always had very

## The Mercury Press Fall Launch

AND 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

PLEASE JOIN US AT

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

FREE. WITH BRIEF READINGS BY THE AUTHORS,  
AND LIVE JAZZ BY  
SCOTT THOMSON AND KYLE BRENDERS

strict (even limiting) ideas about those borders? Through writing exercises, lively moderated discussion and a sharing of ideas from all angles, this workshop is likely to change the way you write your menfolk, your womenfolk and your inbetweenfolk, too. Artists from other disciplines (actors, playwrights, singers/musicians and visual artists, etc.) encouraged to register. Register soon. Bring pens and paper, and please arrive on time. Limited to 12 participants. Toronto Writers' Centre, 627 Bloor St. W., 12-4pm, \$45 plus GST (non-refundable), call 647-427-4737, visit [www.writerscentre.ca](http://www.writerscentre.ca) for more info.

**READING:** Have fun reading Shakespeare aloud. Join The Shakespeare Readers and ask yourself the crucial question: to read or not to read? Participants can volunteer to read a part or simply listen. On the first Saturday of every month we read a different play by Shakespeare; *Love's Labour's Lost* is up for bat for December. Copies of the play will be available, but feel welcome to bring along your own. Beaches Branch, 2161 Queen St. E., 2-4pm, free, [www.tpl.toronto.on.ca](http://www.tpl.toronto.on.ca).

#### **Sun., December 6**

**LAUNCH:** Guernica Editions is pleased to invite you to the launch of new books by Sue Chenette (*Slender Human Weight*), Melanie Janisse (*Orioles in the Oranges*) and Sandy Pool (*Exploding into Night*). Bar Italia, 582 College St., 2-4pm, free, contact 416-535-3621 or visit [www.guernicaeditions.com](http://www.guernicaeditions.com) for more info.

#### **Mon., December 7**

**READING:** The Rowers Pub Reading Series celebrates the recent release of *The Best Canadian Poetry in English*, and has as its December features four poets from the anthology: John Reibetanz, Karen Solie, Ricardo Sternberg and John Terpstra. Harbord House, 150 Harbord St., 2nd floor, 7:30pm (doors at 6), pass-the-hat donation, call 647-430-7365 for more information.

#### **Tues., December 8**

**READING:** Pier Giorgio Di Cicco, Asa Boxer and Robert Winger share their work tonight at The Art Bar Poetry Series. Open mic. Clinton's, 693 Bloor St. W., 8pm, pass-the-hat donation, [www.artbar.org](http://www.artbar.org).

## *The Toronto Literary Calendar: A Monthly Supplement to Word*

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### **About *Word: Canada's Magazine for Readers + Writers***

For more than a decade, the publishing teams at Insomniac Press and The Mercury Press brought you *Word* as a free tabloid. *Word* provides a much-needed service to the Canadian literary scene, including reviews, comment and opinion. *Word's* writers and reviewers are among the most insightful and entertaining in the country.

*Word's* content-heavy, thought-provoking issues appear as PDF files, easy to read online, free to the public and simple to print. Watch for the *Word Reader*, to be published three times per year, packed with the best articles, reviews and writing about the world of books. *Word's* Toronto literary calendar of events appears online monthly as a PDF file.

**Wed., December 9**

READING: Join us as Martha Baillie reads from her latest novel, *The Incident Report*. Bloor/Gladstone Library, 1101 Bloor St. W., 7pm, free, call 416-393-7674 for more information.

**Sat., December 12**

DISCUSSION: The Humber Writers' Circle welcomes author Michael Redhill and associate editor Kate Cassaday. Each month, the series invites an experienced author to talk about the craft of writing, and an agent/editor/creative-writing teacher to critique the first page of your manuscript. Michael Redhill is an award-winning poet, playwright and novelist. His works of fiction include *Martin Sloane*, *Fidelity* and, most recently, *Consolation*, which won the City of Toronto Book Award. The novel was also longlisted for the prestigious Man Booker Prize in 2007. Kate Cassaday joined HarperCollins Canada in 2006 as an assistant editor. She has since moved into the new role of associate editor for the Collins imprint. First pages of manuscripts must be submitted in advance to Hilary Higgins at [hilary.higgins@humber.ca](mailto:hilary.higgins@humber.ca). Number of participants limited to 20. Building J, Humber's Lakeshore Campus, Kipling Ave. and Lake Shore Blvd. W., 10am-12:15pm, \$35, call 416-675-5005 and refer to course number CRWR 210-71 to register.

**Sun., December 13**

READING: The Plasticine Poetry series presents a night of poetry featuring David Clink, Andrea Jarmai, Nyla Matuk and Myna Wallin. Open mic. Hosted by Cathy Petch. The Central, 603 Markham St., 6pm, free, [www.thecentral.ca](http://www.thecentral.ca).

**Tues., December 15**

READING: Welcome to another installment of Dead Poets' Night at The Art Bar Poetry Series. David Clink hosts. Clinton's, 693 Bloor St. W., 8pm, pass-the-hat donation, [www.artbar.org](http://www.artbar.org).

**Thurs., December 17**

READING: Cathy Marie Buchanan, the *New York Times* bestselling author of the new historical fiction novel *The Day the Falls Stood Still*, comes down to Locke Library for a free book talk and signing. The

author will give a short presentation on the history, lore and environmental issues behind the book. Afterward, she will be able to answer questions and sign copies of her book which will be available for sale. Locke Library, 3083 Yonge St., 2pm, free, [www.tpl.toronto.on.ca](http://www.tpl.toronto.on.ca).

**WEEKLY EVENTS**

**TUESDAY**

Society of Environmental Journalists hosts monthly Pub Nights on the first Tuesday of every month, with featured guest speaker and informal discussions about environmental journalism and other subjects of personal interest. All interested in environmental journalism and issues welcome! Harbord House, 2nd floor, gather 7-7:30pm (speaker at 8), free, RSVP to [SEJpubnight@saunderseditor.com](mailto:SEJpubnight@saunderseditor.com).

**FRIDAY**

The Weekly Writers' Workshop at U of T meets every Friday for critique, discussion, creation, and advice on marketing of original poetry and prose. Workshop features guest authors and is involved in literary events and publications. Hart House, 7 Hart House Circle, 6pm, free, [uoftwritersco-op@hotmail.com](mailto:uoftwritersco-op@hotmail.com).

**CLASSIFIEDS**

***Online and freelance writing courses***

Paul Lima, freelance writer and writing instructor, offers online courses on business writing, copywriting and business of freelance writing. Courses are self-paced and one-on-one. Costs vary by course. Contact [writer@paullima.com](mailto:writer@paullima.com) for more info. [www.paullima.com/ecourses](http://www.paullima.com/ecourses).

***Looking for a writing group?***

Bloor West Writers, a weekly fiction workshop meeting in Toronto's Bloor West Village, is seeking new writers to add to its ranks. If you are a published or emerging writer looking for an advanced fiction workshop, please email us for more information at [bloorwestwriters@yahoo.ca](mailto:bloorwestwriters@yahoo.ca).