

The Toronto Literary Calendar

January 2009

**To submit a free event listing,
please send event details to
wordlistings@hotmail.com.
Listings for the February 2009 issue
are due by January 15.**

Wed., January 7

READING: The Rowers Pub Reading Series has as its January features: Edward Brown (*Playing Basra*), Sandra Kasturi (*The Animal Bridegroom*) and Myna Wallin (*A Thousand Profane Pieces*). Harbord House, 150 Harbord St., 2nd floor, 7:30pm (doors at 6), pass-the-hat donation, call 647-430-7365 for more information.

Fri., January 9

LAUNCH: Launch party for *Clown with a Coat Hanger*, the new CD by spoken-word satirist Jeff Cottrill. Also featuring performances by special guests: poet Andrea Thompson, storyteller Mike Bryant, and musicians blueVenus and Shawn Sage. Renaissance Cafe, 1938 Danforth Ave., 8pm, free, jeffcottrill.coffeehouse.ca.

Tues., January 13

SLAM: Looking to check out the incredible female, spoken word talent in Toronto? Then head on over to the girls-only Poetry Slam going down at The Boat. The winner will be the rep for Toronto Poetry Slam at the Women of the World Festival in Detroit. Featuring the lady-tastic music of High Heels Lo Fi. Hosted by Andrea Thompson. The Boat, 158 Augusta Ave., 7pm signup/doors (7:30 slam), \$5, call 416-312-3865 for more information.

Wed., January 14

READING: Pivot Readings at the Press Club breaks into the new year with spirited readings by Kyle Buckley, Rocco De Giacomo and Jessica Westhead. Hosted by Carey Toane. The Press Club, 850 Dundas St. W., 8pm, free, pivotreadings.wordpress.com.

Thurs., January 15

WORKSHOP: Canadian Authors Association Toronto Branch presents Crafting the Short Story Workshop with Shane Joseph. Joseph will discuss his approach to crafting the short story using examples from his latest collection of short stories, *Fringe Dwellers*. He will cover the elements of the short story, length and editing; and talk about whether the short story is enjoying a renaissance. The World's Biggest Bookstore, 20 Edward St., 2nd floor, 7-9pm, free to CAA members/\$10 for non-members, more info at <http://www.canauthorstoronto.org/>

Sat., January 17

SLAM: Toronto Poetry Slam returns with another high-energy, poetical battle-concert, featuring the vocal beauty of Moe Clark from Montreal. Anyone can sign up to slam provided they sign up at 7:30. Hosted by Dave Silverberg. Drake Hotel, 1150 Queen St. W., 8pm (7:30 sign-up), \$5, torontopoetry-slam.com.

Sun., January 18

READING: Jeff Cottrill, Susan Glickman, Andrea Jarmai and Rod Weatherbie perform at the Plasticine Poetry Series. The Central, 603 Markham St. (1 block west of Bathurst subway), 8pm, free.

Mon., January 19

DISCUSSION: Artists and scholars discuss the figure of the animal in contemporary art, culture and politics. The participants are: Emily Vey Duke and Cooper Battersby, artists currently showing at The Power Plant; Matthew Brower, curator of the University of Toronto Art Centre; Bill Burns, Toronto-based artist responsible for the Safety Gear for Small Animals project. Moderator is Jon Davies, Assistant Curator of Public Programs at The Power Plant. The Power Plant, 231 Queens Quay W., 7pm, \$4 members/\$6 non-members, www.thepowerplant.org.

READING: The forty-fourth edition of Strong Words will be the first reading produced by new curators Devon Code and Spencer Butt. The evening will feature Kathleen Phillips, Rebecca Rosenblum and Mike Smith. As always, donations of new/used books in resale condition to be collected on behalf of the Toronto Public Library's Book Ends program. The Gladstone Art Bar, 1214 Queen St. W., 7:30pm, pwyc, www.strong-words.ca, www.tpl.toronto.on.ca.

Tues., January 20

READING: The Art Bar Poetry Series features Ian Burgham, Amanda Hiebert and Michael Fraser. Clinton's, 693 Bloor St. W., 8pm, pass-the-hat donation, www.artbar.org.

Fri., January 23

SYMPOSIUM: Organized by The Power Plant in association with the journal *Public* and with the collaboration of the Goethe Institut, Toronto, We, Ourselves and Us is a symposium that traces the creation of temporary

social formations. Attend the keynote lecture by Simon Critchley on *Mystical Anarchism* on Friday and the symposium itself on Saturday, January 24. Saturday will feature a series of two-person presentations (by Nina Möntmann, Emily Roysdon, Luis Jacob, Carlos Basualdo and others) followed by discussion, and will be concluded by screening of Nicoline Van Harskamp's *To Live Outside the Law You Must be Honest*. The Studio Theatre, York Quay Centre, 235 Queens Quay W., 7pm, \$8 members/\$10 non-members (refer to website for two-day or Saturday only charges), www.thepowerplant.org/panels.

Mon., January 26

MEETING: The Editors' Association of Canada (Toronto) invites you to attend its general meeting. Prospective and new members are welcome to attend a Q&A session at 6:45pm. Women's Art Association of Canada, 23 Prince Arthur Ave., 7:30pm, free for members, \$5 for non-members, visit www.editors.ca and follow links to the Toronto branch for more info.

Tues., January 27

READING: Audience Appreciation Night at Art Bar Poetry Series. General merriment is guaranteed on this annual evening of words and music. There will be the complimentary chapbook of poetry; readings by the Art Bards; live music from New Orleans style jazz band Canal Street Four (ladies bring your parasols!). No hat will be passed. Clinton's, 693 Bloor St. W., 8pm, free, www.artbar.org.

Wed., January 28

READING: World Literacy of Canada's Kama Reading Series begins its 2009 season with Joseph Boyden, Mary Lou Finlay, Dan Hill and Ken McGoogan,

who will be discussing *Journals and Journeys*. The remainder of the season includes fabulous nights with M.G. Vassanji, Adrienne Clarkson, John Ralston Saul, Ann-Marie MacDonald, and many more! \$250 Series Tickets include five evenings of readings, conversation and book signings, complimentary cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, and a charitable tax receipt for \$125. McKinsey & Company, 110 Charles St. W., 7pm (doors at 6:30 for cocktails and hors d'oeuvres), \$250 series ticket, visit www.worldlit.ca/kama to register.

Sat., January 31

WORKSHOP: Get inspired by writing activities led by author Karen Krossing in WordPlay Youth Writing Workshop. Learn creative writing techniques and share your writing with the group for constructive feedback. For ages 12 to 19. Brookbanks Library, 210 Brookbanks Dr., 1-3pm, free, register by contacting Ken Sparling at ksparring@torontopubliclibrary.ca or 416-397-5970.

LECTURE: Visual Arts Director at the New Orleans Contemporary Arts Center, Dan Cameron has initiated 'Prospect.1 New Orleans,' a new biennial of contemporary art that takes the pulse of the post-Katrina city, while also contributing to reconstruction efforts. 'Prospect.1 New Orleans' is the largest international exhibition of contemporary art presented in the United States to date. Previously Senior Curator at the New Museum in New York from 1995 to 2007, Cameron is also a widely published writer. The Power Plant is pleased to present Dan Cameron lecturing as part of the International Lecture Series. The Brigantine Room, York Quay Centre, 235 Queens Quay W., 4pm, free to members/\$10 to non-members., www.thepowerplant.org.

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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.

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