

The Toronto Literary Calendar

May 2009

To submit a free event listing,
please send event details to
wordlistings@hotmail.com.

Listings for the June 2009 issue are due by May 15.

Fri., May 1

LECTURE: For the Third Annual June Callwood Lecture, a series which features a talk by a social justice activist, TRL is proud to welcome guest speaker Sally Armstrong. Armstrong is a human rights activist, documentary filmmaker and award-winning author, and will be giving a lecture called "Moral Courage: The Power to Speak Out." Valerie Pringle hosts. Music by Lorraine Segato. Toronto Reference Library, 789 Yonge St., 7:30pm, free (donations to the June Callwood Endowment Fund are gratefully accepted), www.torontopubliclibrary.ca.

READING: Diaspora Dialogues's Friday Night Series has free weekly readings and performances. Sample a captivating cross-section of our city's writers, performers and artistic forms, including fiction, poetry, spoken word, theatre and music! May 1 will see Nino Ricci, Sherri Vanderveen and more take the stage. Toronto Public Library, Palmerston Branch, 560 Palmerston Ave., 7-8:30pm, free.

Sat., May 2

SEMINAR: The Editors' Association of Canada presents Indexing from A to Z. In this introductory seminar, you'll learn the A to Z of indexing, including the characteristics of an indexer, index terminology and the six steps to making a useful index. Northrop Frye Hall, 73 Queen's Park Cres., Room 007, 9:30am-4:30pm, \$145 for EAC members/\$185 for non-members, call 416-975-5528 or visit www.editors.ca and follow links to the Toronto branch to register.

Mon., May 4

READING: Join a diverse cast of accomplished poets—Kevin Connolly, Jen Currin, Kim Minkus and Christine Leclerc—for a night of readings. Book sales by This Ain't The Rosedale Library. Bread & Circus, 299 Augusta Ave., 7:30pm, free, www.chbooks.com.

READING: The Rowers Pub Reading Series has as its May features Claudio Duran (*La infancia y los exilios/Childhood and Exile*), Katherine Govier (*The Ghost Brush*) and Eric Winter (*The Man in the Hat*). Harbord House, 150 Harbord St., 2nd floor, 7:30pm (doors at 6), pass-the-hat, 647-430-7365.

READING: The 48th edition of Strong Words welcomes Jenny Sampirisi, Marianne Apostolides and Jaime Forsythe. As always, donations of new/used books in resale condition will 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., May 5

READING: Sonia di Placido, Robert Bringhurst and Shane Neilson are the night's readers at the Art Bar Poetry Series. Clinton's, 693 Bloor St. W., 8pm, pass-the-hat donation, www.artbar.org.

READING: The Eh List Reading Series at the Toronto Public Library returns for May. This spring, 21 authors from across Canada will visit city libraries for 28 readings and discussions at locations across Toronto. Join author Andrew Pyper for a reading and discussion of his latest novel, *The Killing Circle*. Runnymede Branch, 2178 Bloor St., 7pm, free, www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/ehlist.

Wed., May 6

SEMINAR: The Editors' Association of Canada presents Estimating Is Not a Science. Geared to freelance editors, this seminar outlines different methods and common snares in assessing what editorial work needs to be done, how long it will take and what to charge. Oakham House, 63 Gould St., Room G, 1-4pm, \$70 for EAC members/\$85 for non-members, call 416-975-5528 or visit www.editors.ca and follow links to the Toronto branch to register.

READING: Award-winning author, Edeet Ravel, reads from her latest novel, *Your Sad Eyes and Unforgettable*

Mouth. Two very different girls, both children of Holocaust survivors, unexpectedly become friends. Q&A follows the reading. Bring your lunch and a question for Edeet. North York Central Library, Auditorium, 5120 Yonge St., 12:30–1:30pm, free, call to register at 416-395-5639, www.torontopubliclibrary.ca.

READING: Julie Angus presents her harrowing adventure tale of crossing the ocean, *Rouboat in A Hurricane*; join us for an exciting presentation and reading. Q&A and book signing/sale will follow. An Eh List Reading Series event. Toronto Public Library, S. Walter Stewart Branch, 170 Memorial Park Dr., 7pm, free, www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/ehlist.

Thurs., May 7

LAUNCH: Launch of *Truth and Other Fictions*, a book of stories by Eva Tihanyi published by Inanna Publications. Refreshments will be served. Lolita's Lust and Chinchilla Lounge (upstairs), 513 Danforth Ave., 6–8pm, free, www.yorku.ca/inanna.

READING: Oceans In Peril: Join authors Julie Angus and Alanna Mitchell for readings from their new books, and a discussion on the state of the world's oceans. Q&A and book signing/sale will follow. An Eh List Reading Series event. Toronto Reference Library, 789 Yonge St., 7pm, free, www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/ehlist.

LAUNCH: Glenn McArthur explores the oeuvre and the legacy of one of Canada's foremost architects in the colourfully illustrated and definitive volume, *A Progressive Traditionalist: John M. Lyle, Architect*. Eric Arthur Gallery, 230 College St., 6:30pm, free, www.chbooks.com.

Fri., May 8

LAUNCH: World Literacy of Canada will be launching *True Patriot Love: Four Generations in Search of Canada*, a new book by Michael Ignatieff. The launch will be held at University of Toronto's Convocation Hall and will be presented in association with Penguin Group (Canada), MBNA and the U of T Bookstore. All proceeds to support World Literacy of Canada's literacy and community-development projects. Convocation

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Calendar Editor: Jap-Nanak Makkar

Word Editor: Maria Erskine

Copy Editor: Frances Lemon

Typesetter: Beverley Daurio

Typographic Assistant: Tyluh J-Aimzz

Illustrations: Kim Kutner

Founder and Publisher Emeritus: Mike O'Connor

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.

Hall, University of Toronto, 31 King's College Circle, 7pm, \$60 Premiere Floor Seats (with a tax receipt for \$50) (Sections A, B, C) / \$40 Rise Area (with a tax receipt for \$30) (Sections D, E F) / \$20 Balcony Seats (Sections H, I, K, L, M, P, Q, R, S, T), contact www.uofttix.ca or call 416-978-8849 for tickets.

READING: Authors at Harbourfront Centre and the Toronto Comic Arts Festival present an evening of world-renowned graphic artists/novelists: Seth, Yoshihiro Tatsumi and Adrian Tomine. Seth and Tomine talk up their latest graphic novels, then Tomine interviews cult Japanese artist Tatsumi about his. This event, presented in partnership with The Beguiling bookstore, will also feature a corresponding visual art exhibition, *Graphic Novels: The Creation of Art and Narrative*, located in Harbourfront Centre's York Quay Centre. York Quay Centre, 235 Queens Quay W., 7:30pm, \$8/free for members and students with valid ID, contact 416-973-4000 or www.readings.org for tickets and information.

Sat., May 9

READING: OUTwrites is proud to present a staged reading of work by four members of the Playwrights Guild of Canada: Caroline Azar, author of *Man-O-Rexic* and *Satan's Mistress*; Don Bapst, author of *danger@liaisons.com* and *The Horror*; Sonja Mills, author of *Dyke City* and *The Danish Play*; and Bruce Bell, author of *Whispers of the Hibaku-sha* and *I Slept with Tony Trouble*. Miles Nadal JCC, 750 Spadina Ave., 8pm, free (donations to OUTwrites welcome), visit www.outwrites.org for more info.

SEMINAR: The Editors' Association of Canada presents Proofreading, a seminar that looks at how this skill fits into the process of producing print documents of all kinds. You'll learn the difference between copy editing and proofreading, and what to do (and not do). Northrop Frye Hall, 73 Queen's Park Cres., Room 007, 10am-4pm, \$135 for EAC members/\$165 for non-members, call 416-975-5528 or visit www.editors.ca and follow links to the Toronto branch to register.

FESTIVAL: Welcome to Open House Festival, a weekend-long celebration of words and ideas. The world's premier thinkers and doers come together for a

unique program of readings and discussions that will provoke, entertain and enlighten. The festival is in support of PEN Canada and Frontier College. Hart House Great Hall, 7 Hart House Circle, \$15/lecture (\$65 for weekend pass), contact www.uofttix.ca or call 416-978-8849 for tickets, www.randomhouse.ca/openhouse.

AWARDS: The official launch of *The Collected Doug Wright: Canada's Master Cartoonist Volume One* (Drawn and Quarterly), featuring a discussion with Seth, Brad Mackay and Chris Oliveros—the book's creative team. In addition, the 2009 Wright Awards will be handed out in a ceremony featuring Don McKellar and Stuart McLean. Art Gallery of Ontario, Jackman Hall, 317 Dundas St. W., 7-9pm, \$5, www.wrightawards.ca.

Tues., May 12

READING: Join readers Chris Pannell, Nyla Jean Matuk and Pasha Malla for a night at the Art Bar Poetry Series. Clinton's, 693 Bloor St. W., 8pm, pass-the-hat donation, www.artbar.org.

READING: Meet author Austin Clarke and hear him read from his exciting new novel, *More*. Q&A and book signing/sale will follow. An Eh List Reading Series event. Barbara Frum Branch, 20 Covington Rd., 7pm, free, www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/ehlist.

LAUNCH: Canadian filmmaker Guy Maddin launches *My Winnipeg*, the companion to his award-winning film of the same title, with This Is Not A Reading Series. This eclectic and intimate book is full of surprises to delight readers and Maddin fans. The evening will include a table hockey tournament in which Maddin faces off against challengers! Revival, 783 College St. W., 7:30pm (doors at 7), \$5 admission or free with book purchase, www.chbooks.com

Wed., May 13

READING: Authors at Harbourfront Centre features readers Jane Hamilton (*Laura Rider's Masterpiece*), Kamila Shamsie (*Burnt Shadows*) and Sherri Vanderveen (*Absent*). Love, war, passion and sweeping family histories in new novels by three supremely talented writers. York Quay Centre, 235 Queens Quay W., 7:30pm, \$8/free for members and students with valid ID, contact 416-973-4000 or www.readings.org for tickets and information.

Thurs., May 14

LAUNCH: Don't miss the rollicking Coach House Books spring group launch at Stones Place. Featuring readings by Jocelyn Brown (*The Mitochondrial Curiosities of Marcells 1 to 19*), Carla Gunn (*Amphibian*), Guy Maddin (*My Winnipeg*), Glenn McArthur (*A Progressive Traditionalist*), Anton Piatigorsky (*Eternal Hydra*) and Matthew Tierney (*The Hayflick Limit*). Stones Place, 1255 Queen St. W., 8pm, free, www.chbooks.com.

READING: Meet two time Governor General's Award for Fiction winner Nino Ricci for a reading and discussion of his 2008 GG-winning book, *The Origin of Species*. Q&A and book signing/sale will follow. An Eh List Reading Series event. Northern District Branch, 40 Orchardview Blvd., 2pm, free, www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/ehlist.

Sat., May 16

WORKSHOP: In Introduction to Expressive Arts, a studio-based workshop, we'll explore how the practice of making can be used in the pursuit of meaning. We'll engage in different art modalities (movement, music, visual art, writing, drama) and experience the intermodal approach of expressive arts in both individual and group manners. Facilitated by Gili Haimovich, an Expressive Arts therapist, writer and member of Ontario Society of Psychotherapists. ISIS Studio, 66 Gerrard St. E., 3rd floor, 11am-6pm, \$65 (all materials included), call 416-566-3524 to register, gili@poetryon.com or www.poetryon.com for more details.

Tues., May 19

READING: Brian Campbell, Edward Nixon and Joe Rosenblatt take the stage at the Art Bar Poetry Series. Clinton's, 693 Bloor St. W., 8pm, pass-the-hat donation, www.artbar.org.

Wed., May 20

READING: An evening of readings and discussion in celebration of Canada's architectural greats: Jack Diamond (*Insight and On Site: The Architecture of Diamond and Schmitt*), Glenn McArthur (*A Progressive Traditionalist: John M. Lyle, Architect*) and Witold Rybczynski (*My Two Polish Grandfathers*). Part of the fifth annual Festival of Architecture and Design (fAd). York Quay Centre, 235 Queens Quay W., 7:30pm, \$8/free for members

and students with valid ID, contact 416-973-4000 or www.readings.org for tickets and information.

Thurs., May 21

SEMINAR: The Editors' Association of Canada presents Grammar Rules and Myths. This seminar will tackle common grammatical errors, investigate the most tenacious grammar myths and review the rules that have changed over time. Oakham House, 63 Gould St., Room A/B, 10am-5pm, \$160 for EAC members/\$195 for non-members, call 416-975-5528 or visit www.editors.ca and follow links to the Toronto branch to register.

READING: Author Jocelyn Brown launches her YA novel, *The Mitochondrial Curiosities of Marcells 1 to 19*, with readings and a craft workshop. *CM Magazine* says there is something "fresh and real" about the protagonist, Dree, "that makes readers want to cheer her on and maybe even create their own Marcel creatures." Lillian H. Smith Library, 239 College St., 7pm, free, www.chbooks.com.

LAUNCH: Join us for the launch of *Cowboys and Bleeding Hearts: Essays on Violence, Health and Identity*, a collection of essays and letters on political and ethical topics from Ron Charach. From gun control to Jewish identity, Charach investigates the place of these issues in our lives. Nicholas Hoare Bookstore, 45 Front St. E., 7pm, free, www.wolsakandwynn.ca.

PERFORMANCE: Vancouver performance poet Jordan Scott (author of *Blert*) and Element Choir, a Toronto improvisational choir, collaborate to produce original compositions for STUTTER. The Music Gallery, 197 John St., 8pm (doors at 7), \$10 regular/\$5 for Music Gallery Members, www.chbooks.com.

Fri., May 22

SEMINAR: The Editors' Association of Canada presents Punctuation and Mechanics. This seminar will take an appropriately detailed look at punctuation, examine how it affects meaning and present up-to-date rules and guidelines. Oakham House, 63 Gould St., Room A/B, 10am-5pm, \$160 for EAC members/\$195 for non-members, call 416-975-5528 or visit

www.editors.ca and follow links to the Toronto branch to register.

LAUNCH: Seraphim Editions launches *Dream Dresses*, a collection of short stories by cultural anthropologist and writer Hilary Scharper. Following remarks by guest speaker Mary Jo Leddy, Scharper will give a brief talk about the inspiration for writing about how women's dreams and aspirations become entangled with their feelings about attire and their desires for the perfect—or “dream”—dress. Refreshments served. Massey College, 4 Devonshire Place, Common Room, 5-7pm, free.

Sat., May 23

WORKSHOP: East End Writers' Group presents *How to Build Your Story: Plotting Novels and Writing Short Stories* with editor Brian Henry and *New York Times* best-selling author Kelley Armstrong. Learn how to plot a novel. Get the best tips on writing short stories, where to get them published, and how to win contests. See how to apply the story-building techniques you've learned to your own writing. World's Biggest Bookstore, 20 Edward St., 10am-4pm, \$41 in advance/\$45 paid at the door, contact Brian Henry at brianhenry@sympatico.ca for registration and information.

Mon., May 25

LAUNCH: Quattro Books launches the novella *The Extraordinary Event of Pia H.* by Nicola Vulpe, and Paul Zemokhol's first book of poetry, *A River at Night*. The Supermarket, 286 Augusta Ave. (south of College), 7:30pm (doors at 7), free, www.quattrobooks.ca.

SEMINAR: The Editors' Association of Canada presents *Usage Woes and Myths*. Through discussion and examples, the session will provide an up-to-date look at some of the most misunderstood and contentious points of English usage. Oakham House, 63 Gould St., Room A/B, 9am-4pm, \$160 for EAC members/\$195 for non-members, call 416-975-5528 or visit www.editors.ca and follow links to the Toronto branch to register.

MEETING: The Editors' Association of Canada (Toronto) announces its monthly 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/\$10 for non-members, visit www.editors.ca for more info.

Tues., May 26

READING: The Art Bar Poetry Series welcomes Mike Lipsius, Matthew Tierney and Kate Braid as its feature readers. Clinton's, 693 Bloor St. W., 8pm, pass-the-hat donation, www.artbar.org.

Wed., May 27

READING: Draft 4.6 features new work by Alex Boyd, Domenico Capilongo, Heather Cadsby, Sally Cooper and Tanis MacDonald. The night will also include an open stage. Sign up at the beginning of the evening to do a three-minute reading in the last set. Poetry, prose, anything is welcome. With the \$5 admission fee you get a copy of *Draft*, a limited-edition publication available only at these readings. Lisa's Kitchen, 388 Carlaw Ave., unit W12 (pink awning), 8pm (doors at 7:30), \$5, please call 416-433-4170 or email draftreadings@gmail.com for more information.

READING: Joan Thomas reads from her latest WWII-set novel, *Reading by Lightning*. Hans Eichner's novel *Kahn & Engelmann*, a best seller in Austria and Germany in the early '90s, is released in its first English translation. Sadly, the author passed away on the eve of its publication, but will be given tribute in a reading on his behalf. York Quay Centre, 235 Queens Quay W., 7:30pm, \$8/free for members and students with valid ID, contact 416-973-4000 or www.readings.org for tickets and information.

READING: Terry Fallis reads from his debut novel, *The Best Laid Plans*, a satirical novel of Canadian politics, which won the 2008 Stephen Leacock Medal for Humour. The *Globe & Mail* raves, “Amusing, enlightening and Canadian.” North York Central Library, Auditorium, 5120 Yonge St., 7pm, free, call to register at 416-395-5639, www.torontopubliclibrary.ca.

WORKSHOP: This ongoing experiential workshop intends to allow participants to explore their relationship to the issue of body image through the use of methods employed by Expressive Arts Therapy. We will use the expressive arts to discover participants' perceptions of body image, society's view of it and the gaps between them. We will work with an interdisciplinary approach, experiencing different art modalities such as creative writing, visual arts, movement, music and drama. Facilitated by Gili Haimovich, Expressive Arts therapist and writer with background in visual arts and journalism. No background in the arts is necessary. The workshop is in session every Wednesday from May 27 to June 24. ISIS Studio, 66 Gerrard St. E., 3rd floor, 6–8:30pm, \$180 (all materials included), call 416-566-3524 to register, gili@poetryon.com or www.poetryon.com for more details.

Thurs., May 28

READING: Author David Bergen reads from his exciting new novel, *The Retreat*. Join us for an entertaining evening at Taylor Memorial. Q&A and book signing/sale will follow. An Eh List Reading Series event. Taylor Memorial Branch, 1440 Kingston Rd., 7pm, free, www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/ehlist.

READING: Join us at the Richview branch for an afternoon with prize-winning author David Bergen (*The Retreat*). Q&A and book signing/sale will follow. An Eh List Reading Series event. Richview District Branch, 1806 Islington Ave., 2pm, free, www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/ehlist.

FESTIVAL: The 10th Annual Rust Belt Poetry Slam is a Midwestern Regional slam that will be coming to Canada for the first time and will take place over four days. On Thursday, come out to the Last Chance Slam for a chance to join Tomy Bewick and Dwayne Morgan on Team Wild Card. Dominion on Queen, 500 Queen St. E., 7:30pm, \$5, www.rustbelttoronto.com.

Fri., May 29

FESTIVAL: The 10th Annual Rust Belt Poetry Slam kicks off with the first day of preliminaries. Slam teams and individuals compete for a spot on Final Stage. Poor

Alex Theatre, 722A Dundas St. W., 7pm, \$8 (\$25 for a Fri./Sat. pass), www.rustbelttoronto.com for information and festival passes.

Sat., May 30

READING: Come and meet a young author from Québec, Stéphane Dompierre, winner of the Grand Prix de la relève littéraire Archambault. This program will be in French. Q&A and book signing/sale will follow. An Eh List Reading Series event. Toronto Reference Library, 789 Yonge St., 2pm, free, www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/ehlist.

FESTIVAL: Join the Rust Belt Poetry Slam for the second day in preliminaries. Slam teams and individuals continue to compete for a spot on Final Stage. Trane Studio, 964 Bathurst St., 11:30am, \$8 (\$25 for a Fri./Sat. pass), www.rustbelttoronto.com.

FESTIVAL: The 10th Annual Rust Belt Poetry Slam culminates in the Final Stage, where the top four teams and five indies battle it out for a chance to be the Midwestern Champs. The Bloor Cinema, 506 Bloor St. W., 7pm, \$15 (\$25 for a Fri./Sat. pass), visit www.rustbelttoronto.com for info, tickets available at www.totix.ca.

Sun., May 31

SLAM: The Rust Belt Poetry Slam hosts, including Steve and Deb Marsh and Ed Mabrey, will perform at the popular street market event, PS Kensington, on May 31. Each host will get a 40 minute set and will hopefully pull up poets in the audience for a poetry-tag feel. Kensington St., 12pm, free, www.pskensington.ca

LAUNCH: Come to the Burning Effigy Press Spring 2009 Launch Party. The night will launch four new chapbooks: horror anthology *Fresh Blood*, Richard Gavin's horror tale *Primeval Wood*, Dane Swan's new poetry collection *Narcotics // Flora*, and Timothy Carter's *Section K: Kasefile 42—The Demon Subway of North York*. Additional readers/performers TBA. The Central, 603 Markham St., 7:30pm, free, visit www.burningeffigy.com.

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 between 7 and 7:30pm (speaker at 8), free, RSVP at 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.