

The Toronto Literary Calendar

November 2008

**To submit a free event listing,
please send event details to
wordlistings@hotmail.com.
Listings for the December 2008 issue
are due by November 15.**

Sat., November 1

FAIR: The Toronto Small Press Fair transforms into an evening mini-fair with entertainment to better celebrate the sparkling spirit of independent press. A limited number of tables will be on display at the Tranzac Club, and visitors can network, exchange ideas, enjoy readings and music, and more. The Tranzac Club, 292 Brunswick Ave., 6-11pm, free, www.torontosmallpressbookfair.org.

Sun., November 2

READING: Karen Fastrup reads from *Beloved of My 27 Senses* in Parry Sound as part of the International Festival of Authors outreach program. She will be joined by Maggie Helwig, Andrew Pyper and Paul Quarrington. Charlotte Stein hosts. Charles W. Stockey Centre for the Performing Arts, 2 Bay Street, Parry Sound, 4pm, \$10, www.readings.org.

Mon., November 3

LAUNCH: This Ain't the Rosedale Library presents Mattilda Bernstein Sycamore launching her new novel *So Many Ways to Sleep Badly*. The evening will include introductions from Hal Niedzviecki, Stacey May Fowles and Tara-Michelle Ziniuk. Hosted by Sandra Alland. The Boat, 158 Augusta Ave., 7pm, tickets free at This Ain't through October, \$5 thereafter and at the door, www.thisaint.ca.

READING: The 42nd edition of Strong Words, the monthly reading series, features Carey Toane, Philip Arima and Andrew Hood. 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.

LECTURE: A hilarious evening lecture with well-known columnist, writer, humourist and former radio host for the CBC, Bill Richardson. Richardson will be discussing his recent publication, *Old Father William's Well-Ordered Universe*. Limited seating. A U of T Bookstore Reading Series event. Innis Town Hall, 2 Sussex Ave., 7:30pm, tickets \$5, call 416-640-5836 or visit the Refunds desk at 214 College St. for tickets, www.uoftbookstore.com.

Tues., November 4

READING: John Weier, Claire Sharpe and Elizabeth Greene are featured readers at The Art Bar Poetry Series. Clinton's, 693 Bloor St. W., 8pm, pass-the-hat donation, www.artbar.org.

Wed., November 5

READING: The Rowers Pub Reading Series, which runs the first Wednesday of the month, has as its November features: Barry Dempster (*The Burning Alphabet*), Beatriz Hausner (*The Wardrobe Mistress*) and Marilyn Gear Pilling (*Cleavage: A Life in Breasts*). Harbord House, 150 Harbord St., 2nd floor, 7:30pm (doors at 6), free (a hat is passed), www.rowerspubreadingseries.com.

SHOW: The Secret Ingredient is an evening of music, poetry and burlesque, featuring Sandra Alland, ryli skelton, Dainty Smith, Laura Aidanblaise, Brescia Bloodbeard and Stacy B! Clinton's, 693 Bloor St. W., 8pm, \$5-10 sliding scale.

LAUNCH: Join author Kyle Buckley at Type Books to celebrate the launch of *The Laundromat Essay*, a spiralling poetic meditation on time, language and the pathology of forgetting. Type Books, 883 Queen St. W., 7pm, free.

Thurs., November 6

INTERVIEW: John Moffat (*Reinventing Gravity*) and Dan Falk (*In Search of Time*) will be interviewed by Quirks and Quarks host Bob McDonald. For the first time, *Reinventing Gravity* introduces general readers to John Moffat's groundbreaking new ideas about the universe. An enjoyable and compelling ride through one of life's most fascinating enigmas. As usual, Dan Falk's style combines exhaustive research with a lively, accessible and often humorous style, making *In Search of Time* a delightful tour through a most curious dimension. A U of T Bookstore Reading Series event. Hart House Library, 7 Hart House Circle, 7:30pm, free, www.uoftbookstore.com.

LAUNCH: Join poet Margaret Christakos at David Mirvish Books for the launch of her digital-age exploration of identity and attachment, *What Stirs*. This evening will be a generous reading from Christakos's seventh book of poetry, introduced by brief readings from several other local writers. David Mirvish Books, 596 Markham St., 6-8pm, free, www.chbooks.com.

Sat., November 8

DISCUSSION: Join us for a provocative afternoon of debate and discussion about the serious threats to our physical world and what we can do to make a difference. Speakers include Thomas Homer-Dixon (*The Upside of Down*), J.B. MacKinnon and Alisa Smith (*The 100-Mile Diet*), Chris Turner (*The Geography of Hope*), and Adria Vasil (*Ecoholic*). Moderated by Carol Off. A U of T Bookstore Reading Series event. Hart House Theatre, 7 Hart House Circle, 1-6pm, tickets \$30, visit www.uofttix.ca or call 416-978-8849 or 416-640-5836 for tickets and information, www.uoftbookstore.com.

SEMINAR: The Editors' Association of Canada presents *Harnessing the Business Writing Process*. This workshop helps writers follow the first stages of the writing process in an intuitive manner, making them more efficient writers. Northrop Frye Hall, 73 Queen's Park Cres., Room 007, 9:30am-4:30pm, \$135 for EAC & PWAC members/\$175 for non-members, call 416-975-5528 or visit www.editors.ca and follow links to the Toronto branch to register.

WORKSHOP: Gili Haimovich presents the *Body Image Workshop*. Participants will use the expressive arts to discover different perceptions of body image. The process will be done experientially through writing, along with visual arts and movements. Hampton Therapy Centre, 175 Hampton Ave., 10am-6pm, \$80, call 416-566-3524 to register, gili@poetryon.com or www.poetryon.com.

Sun., November 9

LAUNCH: Burning Effigy Press welcomes you to its Fall 2008 Launch Party. The night will launch three new chapbooks: *On Tenterhooks* by Liisa Ladouceur, *Everyone's Everyman* by Dale Percy and *Redemption Roadshow* by Weston Ochse. Additional readings by past Burning Effigy authors. The Savannah Room, 294 College St. (back room), 7:30pm, free, www.burningeffigy.com.

LAUNCH: To celebrate the publication of *HTO: Toronto's Water from Lake Iroquois to Taddle Creek and Beyond*, This Is Not A Reading Series, Coach House Books and Fort York launch the book in style at Historic Fort York's Blue Barracks. *Spacing's* Matt Blackett moderates a panel discussion on the future of Toronto's water, featuring contributors to *HTO*. Following the panel, guests can either join contributor David Robertson on a guided walking tour of the Fort in relation to Garrison Creek and the original lakeshore, or stay and discuss Toronto's water more informally over a few refreshments in the Blue Barracks. The Blue Barracks, Fort York National Historic Site, 2-6pm, \$5 (or free with purchase of book), www.chbooks.com.

Tues., November 11

READING: The Art Bar Poetry Series opens its doors to Mari-Lou Rowley, Lawrence Hutchman and Andrea Jarmai. Clinton's, 693 Bloor St. W., 8pm, pass-the-hat donation, www.artbar.org.

LAUNCH: Tighrope Books is proud to announce the launch of its much-anticipated new anthology series, *The Best Canadian Poetry*, edited by Molly Peacock and Stephanie Bolster. From a long list of 100 poems drawn from Canadian literary journals and magazines, this year's guest editor, award-winning poet Stephanie Bolster, has chosen 50 of the best Canadian poems published in 2007. With this anthology, readers, once baffled by proliferating poems and poets, can for the first time tap into the remarkable and vibrant Canadian poetry scene. You are invited to explore the currents and cross-currents of poetry in a distinguished volume distilled by a round robin of esteemed editorial taste. The evening's celebration will include readings by Canada's best poets, including Jim Nason, Dani Couture, Sadiqa de Meier, Michael Lista, Al Moritz, David Seymour and more. Premier Canadian jazz musician, Fern Lindzon, will be performing. Revival, 783 College St. W. (at Shaw), 7pm, free, contact Halli Villegas at 416-787-4202 or halli@tightropebooks.com.

LAUNCH: Jacqueline Larson launches her debut poetry collection *Salt Physic*, published by Pedlar Press. The Victory Café, 581 Markham Street, 7:30pm, free.

Wed., November 12

LECTURE: Ken McGowan, author of *Race to the Polar Sea*, and Jonathan Vance, author of *Unlikely Soldiers* visit the University of Toronto for an evening lecture about Canadian history. Hart House Library, 7 Hart House Circle, 7:30pm, free, www.uoftbookstore.com.

Thurs., November 13

WORKSHOP: Writers who want to get their manuscripts published can better their chances by enrolling in *The Insider Guide to Getting Published*—a workshop offered by the School of Creative & Performing Arts, Humber Institute of

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

www.wordmagazine.ca

Published by The Mercury Press

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

Technology and Advanced Learning. Cynthia Good, former President and Publisher of Penguin Canada and current Director of the Creative Book Publishing Program at Humber, will lead participants through the process of preparing cover letters and book proposals that get results and identifying the outside influences that affect publishers' choices. Students will also examine the decision-making process and the factors that attract editors to certain manuscripts, and discuss the advantages and disadvantages of literary agents and self-publishing. Lakeshore Campus, 3199 Lake Shore Blvd. W., 9:30am-4pm, \$329, call 416-675-5005 and quote course number CRWR 218 to register.

Fri., November 14

LAUNCH: The launch of Mel Bradshaw's latest crime novel, *Victim Impact*. Bradshaw is the author of the acclaimed historical mystery about Toronto in 1856, *Death in the Age of Steam*. The author will be signing books. Pre-dinner nibbles will be offered. Sleuth of Baker Street, 1600 Bayview Ave., 6pm, free.

Sun., November 16

READING: The Plasticine Poetry Series presents readers Niki Koulouris, Kate Marshall-Flaherty, Nathaniel G. Moore and Cathy Petch. The Central, 603 Markham St., 8pm, free.

Tues., November 18

LAUNCH: Welcome to SPLASH '08: A Night for the Arts at Ryerson! This evening we will launch the new issue of the *White Wall Review*. Please join us in celebration of the arts—come see what Ryerson's dynamic literary community has splashed onto this year's *White Wall*. Light refreshments will be provided. Ryerson University, Heaslip House, 297 Victoria St., 7th floor, 6-7:30pm, free.

LAUNCH: BookThugs meet in Toronto to celebrate the launch of all sorts of new and exciting books. Paul Hegedus (*In Stereo*), Philip Quinn (*The SubWay*), Victor Coleman (*MAL ARME*), Mark Goldstein (*After Rilke*), Amanda Earl (*Welcome to Earth*) and Steven Zultanski (*This & That Lenin*) will be reading from

their new work. Supermarket, 268 Augusta Ave., 7:30pm, free, www.bookthug.ca.

SCREENING: World Literacy of Canada presents a screening of *Air India 182* as part of the Eyes on India Benefit Film Series. The evening is comprised of a reception at Indiva, screening of the film at Cumberland 4 Cinemas and conversation with special guests Sturla Gunnarsson (Director), Bob Rae (MP) and Nicola Kelly (Family Member). Tickets are \$50 with a \$20 charitable tax receipt included. Indiva, 144 Yorkville Ave., 6:30pm, \$50 (\$10 with student ID), visit www.worldlit.ca/eoi to register.

READING: The Art Bar Poetry Series welcomes guest readers Margaret Christakos, Maurice Mierau and David Clink. Clinton's, 693 Bloor St. W., 8pm, pass-the-hat donation, www.artbar.org.

Wed., November 19

READING: Draft 4.2 features new work by Chris Canniff, Farzana Doctor, Steven Heighton and Leanna McLennan. With the \$5 admission fee you get a copy of *Draft*, a limited-edition publication available only at these readings. Soma Restaurant and Lounge, 703 Queen E., 8pm, \$5, call 416-433-4170 or email draftreadings@gmail.com for more info.

Thurs., November 20

LAUNCH: The launch of the latest crime anthology by the Ladies' Killing Circle, *Going out with a Bang*. Eight of the ladies will be present to sign books. Special guest authors will be Mel Bradshaw, author of *Victim Impact*, and Jon Redfern, winner of this year's Arthur Ellis Award for Best Mystery Novel for his historical fiction, *Trumpets Sound No More*. Pre-dinner nibbles. Sleuth of Baker Street, 1600 Bayview Ave., 6:30pm, free.

LECTURE: U of T Bookstore Reading Series presents an evening lecture on Canadian History. David Hackett Fischer discusses his book *Champlain's Dream* and Peter MacLeod lectures on *Northern Armageddon: The Battle of the Plains of Abraham*. Robert Gill Theatre, 214 College St. (St. George entrance, 3rd

floor), 7:30pm, free, www.uoftbookstore.com.

Sat., November 22

SEMINAR: The Editors' Association of Canada presents Proofreading. This seminar provides an overview of professional proofreading, looking at how this skill fits into the book-publishing process. Northrop Frye Hall, 73 Queen's Park Cresc., Room 007, 10am-5pm, \$125 for EAC members/\$160 for non-members, call 416-975-5528 or visit www.editors.ca and follow links to the Toronto branch to register.

SLAM: Toronto Poetry Slam presents the most fun you can have in a night of spoken word. Featuring Dave Nichols from Ohio. Hosted by Dave "bigdeal" Silverberg. Drake Underground, 1150 Queen St. W., 7:30pm (sign-up), \$5, call 416-312-3865 for more info.

Mon., November 24

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, www.editors.ca.

LAUNCH: The Mercury Press presents brief readings by Brian Dedora, Lesley McAllister and others, to celebrate the publication of our fall 2008 list. Back to the Garden Café, 2535 Dundas W. (five minute walk north of Dundas West subway station). 7:30pm, free. More info: contact@themercurypress.ca.

Tue., November 25

SEMINAR: The Editors' Association of Canada presents Substantive Editing, a seminar that outlines the basic steps, offers tips on ways to win writers' and clients' confidence and provides realistic in-class exercises. Oakham House, 63 Gould St., Room G, 10am-5pm, \$125 for EAC members/\$160 for non-members, call 416-975-5528 or visit www.editors.ca and follow links to the Toronto branch to register.

READING: The Art Bar presents readings by Mike Spry, George Amabile and Robert Priest. Clinton's, 693 Bloor St. W., 8pm, pass-the-hat donation, www.artbar.org.

WORKSHOP: The Professional Writers Association of Canada (PWAC) presents Speech Writing with instructor Dorothea Helms. Helping people put into words what they want to say in public can be fun—and a lucrative source of revenue for freelance writers. Centre for Social Innovation, 215 Spadina Avenue, Suite 120, 9:30am-12:30pm, \$42 PWAC members/\$63 non-members, contact info@pwac.ca or 416-504-1645 ext. 1 for more info, visit www.pwac.ca to register.

Wed., November 26

LAUNCH: World Literacy of Canada is thrilled to announce the publication of *Birdi Num Num*, a story by Mamta Mishra

with original artwork by Prashant Miranda. All proceeds from the sale of this book go towards World Literacy of Canada's India program. For \$251, you are making a donation to World Literacy of Canada's India Program and you will receive: a tax receipt for \$200; one of 500 limited-edition copies of *Birdi Num Num*; Birdi stuffed toys and book bag, all handmade by a women's sewing co-operative in Banaras, India; a gourmet meal for you and your guest. Swipe Books & Urbanspace Gallery, 401 Richmond W., 6:30pm, \$251, visit www.worldlit.ca/specialpublications to register and for more info.

Thurs., November 27

LAUNCH: An appearance from Steve McCaffery, reading at This Ain't the Rosedale Library for the launch of his long-awaited *Every Way Oakley* and its source text, Gertrude Stein's *Tender*

Buttons, both being published (or re-issued) by Toronto's own BookThug press. This will also be a This Ain't launch of sorts for McCaffery's most recent book, *Slightly Left of Thinking* from Chax Press. This Ain't the Rosedale Library, 86 Nassau St., 7:30pm, free, www.thisaint.ca.

DISCUSSION: To celebrate the publication of *HTO*, the Toronto Green Community and Coach House Books present a panel discussion on Toronto's water, featuring some of *HTO*'s contributors. Come and be part of this important debate about H₂O in TO. Hart House, Music Room, 7 Hart House Circle, 7pm, \$5, www.chbooks.com.

LAUNCH: Aaron Peck launches his debut novel *The Bewilderments of Bernard Willis*, published by Pedlar Press. Supermarket, 268 August Ave., 6-8pm, free.

THE MERCURY PRESS

cordially requests the pleasure of your company at a launch and celebration for

Bouncin' with Bartok: The Incomplete Works of Richard Twardzik by Jack Chambers
Between You and Me by Lesley McAllister
The Hostage Taker by D.O. Dodd
A Painter's Journey II by Barbara Caruso
A Slice of Voice at the Edge of Hearing by Brian Dedora
Zong! by M. NourbeSe Philip
A Debt of Death A Harry Stark mystery by John Worsley Simpson

PLEASE JOIN US AT

Back to the Garden Café, 2535 Dundas Street West, Toronto
(a five minute walk north of Dundas West subway station, west side)
Monday, November 24, 7:30 p.m.

CASH BAR / NO COVER / BRIEF READINGS BY BRIAN DEDORA, LESLEY MCALLISTER, JOHN SIMPSON & CAROLE LANGILLE

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