



OCTOBER 11-14, 2018
WHISTLER B.C.

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It's hard to beat a person who never gives up.

- Babe Ruth

And I'd add, it's impossible to succeed without two key elements: courage and community, because no one ventures into the unknown without courage and no one succeeds without community.

Now entering its 17th year, the story of the Whistler Writers Festival is well known. Started in my living room with one guest author and 20 participants, the Festival has grown to involve some 60 guest authors, and close to 2000 participants. It's been a long journey of hard work, commitment and focus to produce a program that appeals to as broad and inclusive an audience as possible. In your feedback, you've told us we've hit the right mix and tone. I appreciate all your kind words and suggestions.

But we couldn't have done it without our volunteers, our community leaders, and other influencers, and most importantly, you, our audience, who have come through time and time again. I think of these words, often, "I'm in your corner," uttered more than once in evaluations, emails and in person. Thanks for being there for us. This festival and the writers we have been so fortunate to host could not do what they do without you. That's why the theme of this year's festival is: **No one succeeds alone.**

Thursday, October 11th will feature: **An Evening of Stories and Songs** with award-winning author, broadcaster and raconteur extraordinaire **Grant Lawrence** and an all-star cast, including **Dave Bidini**, the renowned Toronto musician, author, and founding member of the Rheostatics, Giller Prize-winning author **Esi Edugyan**, celebrated poet, author and spoken word artist and singer **Janet Marie Rogers**, and counter-culture cowboy, **Dustin Bentall**.

On Friday night our **Cooks with Books: Passionate Locavore Edition** will feature something a little different. Local author, **Jane Reid** has travelled the province and will share her discoveries of local harvests from her new book. At the same event, we will proudly feature other local owners, entrepreneurs and wonderful cooks including **Nicolette Richer**, owner of the Green Moustache and Pemberton recipe-blogger **Nidhi Raina**. There will be samples of appetizers to try and you'll be able to meet these authors and hear them discuss their featured recipes. Following this food lovers event, is The Literary Cabaret. Hosted by local scribe and musician **Stephen Vogler**, the night combines readings from some of Canada's best-loved authors, accompanied by live music. This year's cabaret features: **Sharon Bala, Billy-Ray Belcourt, Kevin Chong, Lorna Crozier, Bill Gaston, Wayne Grady, Joel Thomas Hynes, Patrick Lane, Darrel J. McLeod, Marilyn Simonds**, and **Carolyn Marie Souaid**. The winners of the **Whistler Independent Book Awards** will be announced at the Literary Cabaret.

Our popular Saturday reading events are back, each featuring authors of different genres: Poetry, Non-Fiction and Fiction. In addition, our **Literary Salon** for book clubs will feature **Eden Robinson**. We encourage you to read Eden's new novel, *Trickster Drift*, because Eden will be onstage at the salon, which will be moderated by the former Vancouver Writers Festival Artistic Director, **Hal Wake**.

Our **Saturday Crime Writers Lunch** session, moderated by our very own **Feet Banks**, will host authors **Charles Demers, Ian Hamilton, Eve Lazarus**, and **Sam Wiebe**.

WELCOME

On Saturday night, a special main stage event will see **Canada Reads** host **Ali Hassan** in conversation with two-time Booker prize-winning author **Peter Carey**. **Ali** will join us again on Sunday, October 14th to host our Sunday brunch and discussion with award-winning authors **Rawi Hage, Darrel J. McLeod, Lisa Moore, Elizabeth Renzetti**, and **Kim Thúy**. For the early risers, **Grant Lawrence** will host a walk and reading with **Dave Bidini, Charles Demers, Wayne Grady** and **Merilyn Simonds** in **A Walk to Lost Lake and Back**.

Thursday afternoon workshops will focus on alternatives to traditional publishing while Friday will feature a full day of publishing sessions. Join us for a discussion with publishers about the industry's challenges. The afternoon will offer an opportunity to sit down one-on-one with a publisher to hone your pitching skills. Seven publishers will participate in this event and together they represent all genres.

This growing festival is a labour of love for so many: the volunteers who persevere and support it tirelessly; the community that has rallied around it; the guest authors who have fallen in love with Whistler and this festival; and the participants who come year after year. Thank you all for being there for us. We couldn't do it without you.

Welcome to Whistler and to our festival.

Stella Harvey, Festival Director

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Literary Cabaret, Friday, 8 p.m.,
Maury Young Arts Centre
Writers of Fiction, Sat., 3 p.m.
Fairmont Chateau Whistler

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OUR PROGRAMS



WRITER IN RESIDENCE PROGRAM WITH CLAUDIA CASPER

CLAUDIA CASPER will take up residence in Whistler this fall as the community's official Writer in Residence. Claudia will work with writers on their own projects, starting in mid-September with a potluck get-together and introductory meeting. Residency participants will receive three one-on-one sessions with Claudia to develop their manuscripts, and will attend weekly group lectures on various aspects of the writing craft. The residency forms the manuscript-intensive component of the Whistler Writers Festival. This program is made available through the support of the Resort Municipality of Whistler Community Enrichment Program and the Whistler Writing Society. Novice, emerging and experienced writers of all genres interested in taking part in the residency should send an expression of interest to Stella Harvey at Writers@WhistlerWritersFest.com



AUTHORS IN THE SCHOOLS PROGRAM

Schools from Squamish, Whistler, Pemberton, and Mount Currie are given class sets of books from our featured authors who have been selected from a pool of award-winning local, indigenous and Canadian writers. The authors then give presentations and have discussions with the students, to inspire them to write, and tell their own stories. Genres have encompassed fiction, non-fiction, short stories, poetry, picture books and graphic novels. We are honoured to have hosted guest authors Joseph Boyden, Patti Laboucane-Benson, Cary Fagan, Katherine Fawcett, Stella Harvey, Sara Leach, Kelly Mellings, Lisa Moore, Susin Nielsen, Sue Oakey-Baker, Kenneth Oppel, Katherena Vermette, Richard Wagamese, Eric Walters, and Drew Hayden Taylor. This year, **PENNY DRAPER**, **DARREN GROTH**, **SIMON GROTH**, and **EDÉN ROBINSON** will visit students in Sea to Sky schools. Over 2000 students from Grade 4-12 participate in the program each year, and we are grateful for the funding support of the Community Foundation of Whistler, Libby McKeever, Rotary Club of Whistler Millennium, Whistler Blackcomb Foundation, The Province of British Columbia, and The Whistler Writing Society.

Darrel J. McLeod

Douglas & McIntyre, Nightwood Editions and Harbour Publishing are proud to have authors presenting at the 2018 Whistler Writers Festival. **Darrel J. McLeod's** memoir **Mamaskatch: A Cree Coming of Age** (Douglas & McIntyre) is a book that Denise Ryan calls "a profound and tender love song, an elegy to a wounded family, and an unsparing, exquisitely moving chronicle of growing up 'Nehiyaw' (Cree)."

Laisha Rosnau

Nightwood Editions poet **Laisha Rosnau's** new collection, **Our Familiar Hunger**, is about the strength, will, struggle and fortitude of generations of women.

Cornelia Hoogland

In **Trailer Park Elegy** (Harbour Publishing), **Cornelia Hoogland** responds to her brother's sudden death and explores the shift in gravity his dramatic absence creates.

Stephen Vogler



Beloved CBC host **Grant Lawrence**, author of a trifecta of bestsellers from Harbour Publishing and Douglas & McIntyre, and Whistler author **Stephen Vogler**, author of *Only in Whistler: Tales of a Mountain Town* and *Top of the Pass: Whistler and the Sea to Sky Country* are moderating events.

See program for details.

www.douglas-mcintyre.com ·
 www.nightwoodeditions.com ·
 www.harbourpublishing.com

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

| | | | 9AM | 10AM | 11AM | NOON | 1PM | 2PM | 3PM | 4PM | 5PM | 6PM | 7PM | 8PM | 9PM | |
|--|---------------------------|--|---|--|------|--|-----|---|-----|--|---|--|---|---|--|---|
| THUR. OCT 11 | Various Locations | | | | | | | W1: SELF-PUBLISHING 101 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. pg. 10 Whistler Public Library | | | | R1: CANADA'S BEST INDEPENDENT AUTHORS 5:30 - 7 p.m. pg. 10 Whistler Public Library | | R2: AN EVENING OF STORIES & SONGS Reception: 7 - 8 p.m. Event: 8 - 10 p.m. Maury Young Arts Centre pg. 10 | | |
| FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12 | Fairmont Chateau Whistler | | W2: INSIGHTS FROM INSIDERS: TRADE PUBLISHING IN CANADA TODAY 9 – 11:30 a.m. pg. 10 | | | | | W3: SPEED DATING: PITCH YOUR BOOK/IDEA TO PUBLISHERS 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. pg. 11 | | W4: DEAR ABBY: CAN YOU HELP ME WITH MY WRITING? 4 - 5:30 p.m. pg. 11 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | R3: THE BOOKLOVERS' LITERARY SALON 4 - 5:30 p.m. pg. 11 | | | | | | |
| | Various Locations | | | | | | | | | | | | R4: COOKS WITHBOOKS 6:15 – 7:30 p.m. pg. 11 Audain Art Museum | | | R5: THE LITERARY CABARET 8 – 10 p.m. pg. 11 Maury Young Arts Centre |
| SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13 | Fairmont Chateau Whistler | W5: THROUGH THE EYES OF A CHILD 8:30 - 10:30 a.m. pg. 12 | | | | W7: BRUCE CHATWIN DIDN'T DO THIS: AN INTRODUCTION TO TRAVEL WRITING 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. pg. 13 | | | | W9: THE FIRST PAGE pg. 13 W11: FROM SCRIPT TO SCREEN pg. 14 2:30 - 4:30 p.m. | | | | | | |
| | | W6: NON-FICTION WRITING: HOW TO FIND AND DEVELOP AN IDEA 8:30 - 10:30 a.m. pg. 12 | | | | W8: WRITING HOME 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. pg. 13 | | | | W10: SHAPE YOUR NON-FICTION MANUSCRIPT FOR PUBLICATION 2:30 - 5:30 p.m. pg. 13 | | | | | | |
| | | | | R6: WRITERS OF NON-FICTION 10 - 11:30 a.m. pg. 12 | | R8: WRITERS OF POETRY – THIN PLACES 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. pg. 13 | | R9: CRIME WRITERS LUNCH 1 - 2:15 p.m. pg. 13 | | | R10: WRITERS OF FICTION 3 - 4:30 p.m. pg. 14 | | | | R11: ALI HASSAN IN CONVERSATION WITH PETER CAREY 8 - 10 p.m. pg. 14 | |
| | Whistler Public Library | | | | | R7: ON THE EDGE 11 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. pg. 12 | | | | | W12: TRUTH OR LIE: WRITING WORKSHOP FOR YOUNG WRITERS 2:30 - 4 p.m. pg. 14 | | | | | |
| SUN. OCT. 14 | Fairmont Chateau Whistler | | R12: A WALK TO LOST LAKE AND BACK 8:45 – 10:15 a.m. pg. 15 | | | R13: ALI HASSAN IN CONVERSATION 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. pg. 15 | | | | | | | | | | |
| <div><div></div><div><div>R</div><div>W</div></div><div>READING EVENTS WORKSHOPS</div></div> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

WHISTLER INDEPENDENT BOOK AWARDS

Recognizing excellence in independent publishing

The Whistler Independent Book Awards (WIBAs) are open to Canadian authors who have self-published a book or books in the last five years. Authors from across Canada submitted titles, making the awards a genuinely national affair.

Jointly produced by the Whistler Writing Society, Vivalogue and the Vancouver chapter of the Canadian Authors Association, the Whistler Independent Book Awards signal the evolution of self-publishing. While the industry has grown dramatically in the last decades, there had been no rigorous, independently juried Canadian awards recognizing exceptional quality in these titles. Now in their third year, the WIBAs have become a respected hallmark of excellence.

Sponsors



Vivalogue was founded in 2010 to provide professional publishing and editorial services to independent authors in both print and electronic formats.



The Metro-Vancouver Branch of the Canadian Authors Association offers aspiring, emerging, and professional writers opportunities and resources to hone their writing and business skills, network with others, and thrive in a community of like-minded professionals.



Established in 1912, Island Blue Printorium Bookworks is a leading Canadian digital book printer and a proud sponsor of the Whistler Independent Book Awards.

Judges

Nominees Selecting the shortlist from all the submissions received was the responsibility of Vivalogue Publishing. Each author not shortlisted received a detailed assessment of their work, ensuring that all writers benefited from participating in the competition.

Finalists Nominees were judged by members of the Metro-Vancouver branch of the Canadian Authors Association. The CAA's detailed scoring rubric, combined with the scores from the nominating judge, determined the finalists in each category.

Winners Two distinguished judges for each category made the final selection of the winners, to be announced at the Literary Cabaret on October 12.

Fiction

GAIL ANDERSON-DARGATZ's novels have been published worldwide in English and in many other languages. Her international bestsellers *The Cure for Death by Lightning* and *A Recipe for Bees* were both finalists for the Giller Prize. Her latest novel, *The Spawning Grounds*, was nominated for the OLA Evergreen Award, the Sunburst Award and the Canadian Authors Award for Fiction.

DARCIE FRIESEN HOSSACK is a graduate of the Humber School for Writers and, for eleven years, wrote food memoirs for various western Canadian newspapers. Her short story collection, *Mennonites Don't Dance*, was a runner-up for the 2011 Danuta Gleed Award, shortlisted for the 2011 Commonwealth Writers Prize, and the 2012 OLA Forest of Reading Evergreen Award for Adult Fiction.

Non-Fiction

JJ LEE is a well-known author, journalist and broadcaster. His debut book, *The Measure of a Man: The Story of a Father, a Son, and a Suit*, was a finalist for the Governor General's Literary Award, the Charles Taylor Prize, the Hubert Evans Prize and the Hilary Weston Writer's Trust Prize. It was also longlisted for the 2018 Canada Reads competition.

SUE OAKY BAKER is a teacher, guide, painter and writer who holds degrees in French Literature and Language Education. Her memoir, *Finding Jim*, was published in 2013 by Rocky Mountain Books.



T.G. BROWN (Fiction) *Harvest (A Josh Ingram Novel)*

After thirty years of banking, Terry (t.g.) Brown set his sights on his lifelong passion for writing. He is the author of the Josh Ingram thriller series, *O'Henry* (Book 1) and *Harvest* (Book 2), and is currently working on the next novel in the series. Brown has lived in several provinces and now calls British Columbia his home.



LAUREL DEEDRICK-MAYNE (Fiction) *A Wake for the Dreamland*

Laurel Deedrick-Mayne has been a dance publicist, concert promoter, ad copywriter and box office bunny. She has served on multiple arts boards while maintaining her 'day job' as a massage therapist. *A Wake for the Dreamland* won the Alberta Readers' Choice Award in 2016 and has been on Edmonton's bestseller list for 67 weeks.



EMMA L.R. HOGG (Fiction) *Winona Rising*

Emma L.R. Hogg is the author of six novels. One of her previous books, *The Fourth Wall*, was shortlisted for the Whistler Independent Book Award in 2017. Emma resides in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, and is working on her next novel. For more information, please visit her website at www.emmahogg.com.



MIKE SADAVA (Fiction) *The Project*

The Project is Mike Sadava's first book of fiction after a forty-year journalism career in which it was verboten to put words into people's mouths. He liked the process of creating dialogue and stories so much that he is currently working on a satirical sci-fi novel about the evils of smart phones. Mike lives in Victoria with his wife, Anne Cameron Sadava.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Submissions for the 2019 Whistler Independent Book Awards open on **March 1, 2019**. Details are available at www.vivalogue.com.

FINALISTS 2018



BROWN, QUARRY, SZABO & JACOBSON (Non-Fiction)

Travel Dreams and Nightmares—Four Women Explore the World

They met in a writing workshop and collaborated on a book where each shares her own adventures and mishaps, frustrations and delights. Their travels range from the familiar to the exotic, on both land and sea.



MARK COTE (Non-Fiction) *That Lucky Old Son*

Mark Cote is an information junkie and instructor in the Department of Geography & Environmental Studies at the University of Regina. He is passionate about both family and aviation history – especially that concerning Bomber Command and his father's RCAF service in WWII.



TOKO-PA TURNER (Non-Fiction) *Belonging: Remembering Ourselves Home*

Toko-pa Turner is a Canadian writer, teacher and dreamworker. Blending the mystical tradition of Sufism in which she was raised with a Jungian approach to dreamwork, she founded the Dream School in 2001. *Belonging: Remembering Ourselves Home* explores the themes of exile and the search for belonging.

PRIZE PACKAGE

Fiction and non-fiction winners receive a prize package that includes:


- An invitation to participate as a panellist during the Whistler Writers Festival
- 50 complimentary copies of their book, featuring the WIBA Winner's badge, distributed nationally through LitDistCo, courtesy of Island Blue/Printorium Bookworks
- Publicity blitz from a dedicated book publicist

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11

 **WORKSHOP 1:**
Self-Publishing 101
Kilmeny Denny, Lori Rennie,
K. Jane Watt and Megan Williams
1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Whistler Public Library | \$100
Sponsored by: Island Blue Book
Printing

Once their manuscripts are finished, all authors embark on a new adventure. Those interested in traditional publishing must research publishers, approach agents, write query letters and negotiate contracts. Authors interested in self-publishing must source and contract a variety of industry professionals. This workshop features industry professionals Kilmeny Denny, Lori Rennie, K. Jane Watt and Megan Williams, who will provide a comprehensive overview of the business of self-publishing. Authors will learn who to approach, what to ask and how to develop a realistic budget. All attendees will receive a comprehensive handbook of samples, definitions, tips and resources.


Moderator: Lynn Duncan

 **READING EVENT 1:**
Canada's Best Independent Authors of 2018
5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Whistler Public Library | FREE

Accomplished writers are increasingly turning to independent publishing as a financially and creatively satisfying alternative to the traditional model. Meet some of the best independent authors in the country as finalists for the Whistler Independent Book Awards read from books nominated in fiction and non-fiction categories. Winners will be announced at Friday night's Literary Cabaret.

Moderator: Lynn Duncan



 **READING EVENT 2:**
An Evening of Stories and Songs
With host Grant Lawrence and special guests Dustin Bentall, Dave Bidini, Esi Edugyan, and Janet Marie Rogers
7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Reception
8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Event
Maury Young Arts Centre
\$25 includes light appetizers
Reception hosted by the Community Foundation of Whistler

Join award-winning author, broadcaster and raconteur extraordinaire Grant Lawrence (*Dirty Windshields: The Best and the Worst of the Smugglers Tour Diaries*) for a very special evening of stories and songs at the Maury Young Arts Centre. Joining Grant will be an all-star cast, including musician Dustin Bentall, Dave Bidini (*Midnight Light: A Personal Journey to the North*), the renowned Toronto musician, author, and founding member of the Rheostatics, Giller Prize-winning author Esi Edugyan (*Washington Black*), and celebrated poet / author / spoken word artist and singer Janet Marie Rogers (*As Long as the Sun Shines: Modern Indigenous Voices*). A reception and short presentation will precede the event.

Host: Grant Lawrence


FRIDAY, OCT. 12


 **WORKSHOP 2:**
Insights from Insiders: Trade Publishing in Canada Today
Amy Black, Kate Cassaday, Laurie Grassi, Vici Johnstone, Brian Kaufman, Douglas Richmond & Andrew Wooldridge
9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Fairmont Chateau Whistler | \$35

In a rapidly changing book publishing landscape, what are publishers looking for in a manuscript? How do you make contact with them, and best position your book? We invite seven Canadian publishers from boutique presses and major publishing houses to review the state of the industry, and give sage advice on how to get your book published. With Amy Black (Penguin Random House), Kate Cassaday (HarperCollins), Laurie Grassi (Simon and Schuster), Vici Johnstone (Caitlin Press), Brian Kaufman (Anvil), Douglas Richmond (Anansi), and Andrew Wooldridge (Orca).


Moderator: Claudia Casper



 **The Workshop Series is sponsored by The American Friends of Whistler.**


 **WORKSHOP 3:**
Speed Dating: Pitch Your Book/Idea to Publishers
Amy Black, Kate Cassaday, Laurie Grassi, Vici Johnstone, Brian Kaufman, Douglas Richmond & Andrew Wooldridge
1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. (20 min break)
Fairmont Chateau Whistler | \$60
Sponsored by: Marquis Book Printing

Meet publishing decision-makers for 15 minutes to pitch your book or story idea one-on-one and receive feedback. Come prepared with a five-minute pitch and/or questions for the publishers. Meet Amy Black (Penguin Random House), Kate Cassaday (HarperCollins), Laurie Grassi (Simon and Schuster), Vici Johnstone (Caitlin Press), Brian Kaufman (Anvil), Douglas Richmond (Anansi), and Andrew Wooldridge (Orca). The session includes up to two pitches of your choice, on a first-come, first-choice basis.


 **READING EVENT 3:**
The Booklovers' Literary Salon
With Hal Wake and Eden Robinson
4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Fairmont Chateau Whistler
\$25 includes glass of wine

Hal Wake, former Festival Director of the Vancouver Writers Festival, will lead a conversation with Eden Robinson, author of novel *Son of a Trickster*, a finalist for the Scotiabank Giller Prize. Participants and book clubs are encouraged to read Robinson's latest novel *Trickster Drift*, to fully engage in the discussion. Visit your local bookseller (Armchair Books in Whistler) or online stores to get your copy. This session includes a glass of wine to sip during this illuminating literary salon.

Moderator: Hal Wake


 **WORKSHOP 4:**
Dear Abby: Can You Help Me with my Writing?
With Claudia Casper
4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Fairmont Chateau Whistler | \$35

Writers of all abilities, genres, and stages of developing mastery are invited to bring questions, quandaries, obstacles, and whinges about the writing practice and craft. Sympathy will abound. With warmth, wit, and comradery, Casper (*The Mercy Journals*) will dish on the agony and ecstasy of writing and help you unlock your writing problems. Casper is known for her insightful, down-to-earth grasp of structure, character, narrative voice, theme, plot, psychology, pacing, research, and dogged hanging in there to the finish.

 **READING EVENT 4:**
Cooks With Books: Passionate Locavore Edition
Nidhi Raina, Jane Reid & Nicolette Richer
6:15 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Audain Art Museum | \$22
Sponsored by: Real Estate Association of Whistler

Meet passionate, local food lovers Nidhi Raina, chef and recipe blogger, Jane Reid, author of *Freshly Picked: A Locavore's Love Affair with BC's Bounty*, and educator and entrepreneur Nicolette Richer, owner of The Green Moustache Organic Café and author of *Eat Real to Heal: Using the Gerson Method to Boost Your Immunity, Beat Disease, Build Energy and Heal Your Body*. Hear our guests dish about their passion for local and organic foods, and enjoy delicious appetizers from their very own recipes. Discover new flavours and pick up a cookbook to be signed by your favourite passionate locavore.

Moderator: Rebecca Wood Barrett

 **READING EVENT 5:**
The Literary Cabaret
8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Maury Young Arts Centre | \$26
Sponsored by: Vialogue Publishing

Our award-winning guest authors read from their masterworks while local musicians enhance their reading performances with stirring musical accompaniment. The evening features authors Sharon Bala, Billy-Ray Belcourt, Kevin Chong, Lorna Crozier, Bill Gaston, Wayne Grady, Joel Thomas Hynes, Patrick Lane, Darrel J. McLeod, Marilyn Simonds, and Carolyn Marie Souaid. Guest musicians include Geeta Das, Musical Director, also playing trumpet, saxophone and percussion; Rajan Das on upright bass; Dean Feser on percussion; and Rosalind Steel on grand piano and electric keys. The winners of the Fiction and Non-Fiction categories of the Whistler Independent Book Awards will also be announced.

Moderator: Stephen Vogler




 **WORKSHOP 5:**
Through the Eyes of a Child
With Penny Draper
8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Fairmont Chateau Whistler | \$35
Sponsored by: Vision Pacific

Stories we hear as children often stay with us for life. Why? What makes them resonate? We first hear stories sitting on a lap. Then we tell tales, probing the fine line between truth and lie. It is not until much later that we write. So it makes sense for writers of children's stories to put down the pen, pick up a crayon, and look at writing through the eyes of a child. In this workshop with Penny Draper (*Disaster Strikes!* series), we will take our writing back to the beginning: hearing, telling and drawing our stories. Sense of place, structure, dialogue, rhythm and universality will be explored orally and visually, inspiring the writing that will be your homework.


 **WORKSHOP 6:**
Non-Fiction Writing: How to Find and Develop an Idea
With Eve Lazarus
8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Fairmont Chateau Whistler | \$35

It doesn't matter if you're writing a full-blown book, a magazine feature, a memoir or a blog post, every story starts with an idea. Bring along your ideas to this interactive workshop with Eve Lazarus (*Murder by Milkshake: An Astonishing True Story of Adultery, Arsenic, and a Charismatic Killer*) on writing for non-fiction. If you're just getting started and don't have an idea, don't worry, we'll look at where to find ideas, how to develop them, where to find the sources that will add depth, how to shape them, and some suggestions as to where you might pitch your idea.



 **READING EVENT 6:**
Writers of Non-Fiction
Dave Bidini, Bill Gaston, Elizabeth Renzetti & Claire Sicherman
10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Fairmont Chateau Whistler | \$20
Sponsored by: BDO


A festival favourite, this event showcases the diversity of voices that encompasses non-fiction writing, through memoir and creative non-fiction in essay and book form. The panel and audience discussion will centre around readings, and the process and approach of bringing particular subject matter and experiences to life. Featuring: Dave Bidini (*Midnight Light: A Personal Journey to the North*), Bill Gaston (*Just Let Me Look At You: On Fatherhood*), Elizabeth Renzetti (*Shrewed: A Wry and Closely Observed Look at the Lives of Women and Girls*), Claire Sicherman (*Imprint: A Memoir of Trauma in the Third Generation*), and the winner of the Whistler Independent Book Award for Non-Fiction.
Moderator: Leslie Anthony

 **READING EVENT 7:**
On the Edge: The Ingredients for Riveting Children's and YA Literature
Penny Draper, Darren Groth, Simon Groth, and Eden Robinson
11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.
Whistler Public Library | FREE
Sponsored by: The Grocery Store


How do you keep young readers engaged with a novel's characters, eagerly turning the pages, and excited to find out what happens next? Acclaimed author Sara Leach (*Slug Days*), explores the elements that make children's and YA Fiction stories irresistible, with authors Penny Draper (*Red River Raging*), Darren Groth and Simon Groth (*Infinite Blue*), and Eden Robinson (*Trickster Drift*).
Moderator: Sara Leach

 **WORKSHOP 7:**
Bruce Chatwin Didn't Do This: An introduction to travel writing... junkets, freebies and listicles
With Kevin Chong
11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Fairmont Chateau Whistler | \$35
Sponsored by: Pasta Lupino

The author of six fiction and non-fiction books, Kevin Chong (*My Year of the Racehorse*) will explain how he has been paid to travel around the world. He'll talk about how to get on press trips, different types of travel writing, and how to pitch and write stories. Chong's work has been shortlisted for a National Magazine Award and the Hubert Evans Prize, and nominated for a Pushcart prize. His work has recently appeared in *The Rumpus*, *Cosmonauts Avenue*, and *The Walrus*.


 **WORKSHOP 8:**
Writing Home
With Gail Anderson-Dargatz
11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Fairmont Chateau Whistler | \$35

We've all heard the phrase "write what you know" but writing fiction from real life isn't easy. We worry about what family and friends will think. We worry if we have the right to tell the story or write about a given location. We get stuck in reality—what "really happened"—and our fiction flounders because of it. In this workshop, award-winning novelist Gail Anderson-Dargatz (*The Cure for Death by Lightning*) will explore all these issues and more with the goal of writing powerful fiction that has the authority that can only come from "writing what you know." Writers, come with a notebook or tablet in hand, prepared for writing exercises that will bump your writing up to the next level.


 **READING EVENT 8:**
Writers of Poetry – Thin Places
Billy-Ray Belcourt, Lorna Crozier, Cornelia Hoogland, and Laisha Rosnau
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Fairmont Chateau Whistler | \$20

With poems delicate and steely, of heartbreak and grace, these poets take us to the *thin places*, where the boundary between the physical world and the spiritual world is porous and profound. Poets Billy-Ray Belcourt (*This Wound is a World*), Lorna Crozier (*God of Shadows*), Cornelia Hoogland (*Trailer Park Elegy*), and Laisha Rosnau (*Our Familiar Hunger*) invite us to get lost, bear witness, and fall awake.


Moderator: Mary MacDonald

 **READING EVENT 9:**
Crime Writers Lunch
Charles Demers, Ian Hamilton, Eve Lazarus and Sam Wiebe
1:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.
Fairmont Chateau Whistler
\$35 includes lunch
Sponsored by: RE/MAX Sea to Sky Real Estate

Feet Banks steals us away through the deceptive twists and turns of the crime, mystery and thriller genres. Join us to hear our guest authors read from their latest works about murder and mayhem and discuss this chillingly popular genre. With Charles Demers (*Property Values*), Ian Hamilton (*Imam from Tawi-Tawi*), Eve Lazarus (*Murder by Milkshake: An Astonishing True Story of Adultery, Arsenic, and a Charismatic Killer*) and Sam Wiebe (*Cut You Down*).
Moderator: Feet Banks


 **WORKSHOP 9:**
The First Page
With Marilyn Simonds
2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Fairmont Chateau Whistler | \$35

Browsing a bookstore, up to 40% of readers set aside a book after the first page. Agents and editors are just as tough. But the good news is, they *all* read the first page. Learn how to craft an opening that will plunge your readers irresistibly into your story. In this workshop, we'll look at dozens of first lines, first paragraphs, and first pages in a variety of genres, analyzing how they achieve their effects and developing the tools to assess your own first page.


 **WORKSHOP 10:**
Shape Your Non-fiction Manuscript for Publication
With Vici Johnstone
2:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
(30-minute sessions – 6 spots)
Fairmont Chateau Whistler | \$100

Writers are invited to send in their manuscripts one month in advance of the festival, and then meet with publisher Vici Johnstone (Caitlin Press) at the festival for a 30 minute, private review of their non-fiction manuscript. Vici will discuss how to prepare the submission for publication, and how the idea can be better developed to capture the interest of a publisher. This might include: restructuring the content; expanding on themes, or filling in the gaps; whether the book needs photos or illustrations and if so who is responsible for them and when should they start the research; does it need endnotes, index, bibliography etc. Discussion may also include who the market is and how and why a publisher will critique or select according to their mandate. Spaces are limited to six spots.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13


 **WORKSHOP 11:**
From Script to Screen
With Joel Thomas Hynes
2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Fairmont Chateau Whistler | \$35

Drawing from over twenty years' experience as an industry professional, author, screenwriter and TV producer Joel Thomas Hynes (*We'll All Be Burnt in Our Beds Some Night, Cast No Shadow*) is offering an informal, discussion-based workshop focused on overcoming the challenges of bringing your creative vision from the page to the screen. The workshop is open to emerging and established screenwriters alike.

 **WORKSHOP 12:**
Truth or Lie: Writing Workshop for Young Writers
With Penny Draper
(must be under the age of 19 to attend)
2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Whistler Public Library | FREE

Writing historical fiction is like being an archaeologist, historian, reporter and liar all at once. It's not for the faint of heart. How do you find the story that will make your facts come alive without changing the course of history? Join award-winning author Penny Draper (*Disaster Strikes!* series) to find out. Delve into her Box of Wonders and check out the maps, artifacts, clues, characters and treasure that will help you create your own piece of historical fiction. She'll bring the truth; you bring the lies.

 The Workshop Series is sponsored by The American Friends of Whistler.


 **READING EVENT 10:**
Writers of Fiction
Gail Anderson-Dargatz, Maureen Medved, Carolyn Marie Souaid, Dania Tomlinson
3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Fairmont Chateau Whistler | \$20

Renowned author Wayne Grady (*Up From Freedom*) explores the essential elements of fiction through our guest authors' stories. Gail Anderson-Dargatz (*The Spawning Grounds*), Maureen Medved (*Black Star*), Carolyn Marie Souaid (*Yasmeen Haddad Loves Joanasi Maqaittik*), and Dania Tomlinson (*Our Animal Hearts*). The event will also include the winner of the Whistler Independent book prize for fiction.
Moderator: Wayne Grady



 **READING EVENT 11:**
Ali Hassan in Conversation with Peter Carey
8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Fairmont Chateau Whistler
\$25 includes a glass of wine
Sponsored by: RGF Integrated Wealth Management

CBC Radio host Ali Hassan joins Peter Carey in conversation at our Saturday night gala event. Carey is the author of thirteen previous novels, including *Oscar and Lucinda*, *True History of the Kelly Gang* and his latest book, *A Long Way From Home*. He has won the Booker Prize twice, and in addition, his honours include the Commonwealth Writers' Prize and the Miles Franklin Literary Award. Moderator Hassan is a stand-up comic and actor as well as the host of Canada Reads and Laugh Out Loud on CBC Radio and SiriusXM, on which he wrangles top Canadian comedians for a listenership of over 1 million people. The gala includes a glass of wine at this cabaret-style reading and discussion event.
Moderator: Ali Hassan



DONATIONS

Thanks so much for supporting the Whistler Writers Festival, Writer in Residence Program, Authors in the Schools Program, and other literary programming in the Sea to Sky corridor. Any donation you make goes directly into current and future literary programming initiatives. A charitable receipt will be issued for any donation of \$25 or more.

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SUNDAY, OCT. 14



 **READING EVENT 12:**
A Walk to Lost Lake and Back
Dave Bidini, Charles Demers, Wayne Grady, and Marilyn Simonds
8:45 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. | Fairmont Chateau Whistler lobby
\$20 includes hot chocolate & treats
Sponsored by: The Brew Creek Centre

Take a walk with us to the beach and back through the pine forests of Lost Lake Park. Inhale a dose of fresh air, get a little exercise, and enjoy invigorating short readings and writerly conversation with our guest authors Dave Bidini (*Midnight Light: A Personal Journey to the North*), Charles Demers (*Property Values*), Wayne Grady (*Up From Freedom*) and Marilyn Simonds (*Refuge*), led by moderator Grant Lawrence (*Dirty Windshields: The Best and the Worst of the Smugglers Tour Diaries*), along the stunning lakeshore. The flat gravel trail is a 4 km round trip. Rain or shine. Please bring appropriate outdoor clothing. Don't forget your camera. Tickets limited to 25 registrants.
Moderator: Grant Lawrence

 **READING EVENT 13:**
Ali Hassan in Conversation
Rawi Hage, Darrel J. McLeod, Lisa Moore, Elizabeth Renzetti, Kim Thúy
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. | Fairmont Chateau Whistler
\$42 includes brunch

Join us for a delicious brunch and indulge your literary cravings during a conversation between moderator Ali Hassan and Rawi Hage (*Beirut Hellfire Society*), Darrel J. McLeod (*Mamaskatch: A Cree Coming of Age*), Lisa Moore (*Something for Everyone*), Elizabeth Renzetti (*Shrewed: A Wry and Closely Observed Look at the Lives of Women and Girls*), and Kim Thúy (*Vi*). Three of the authors on this panel are Canada Reads finalists or winners.
Moderator: Ali Hassan

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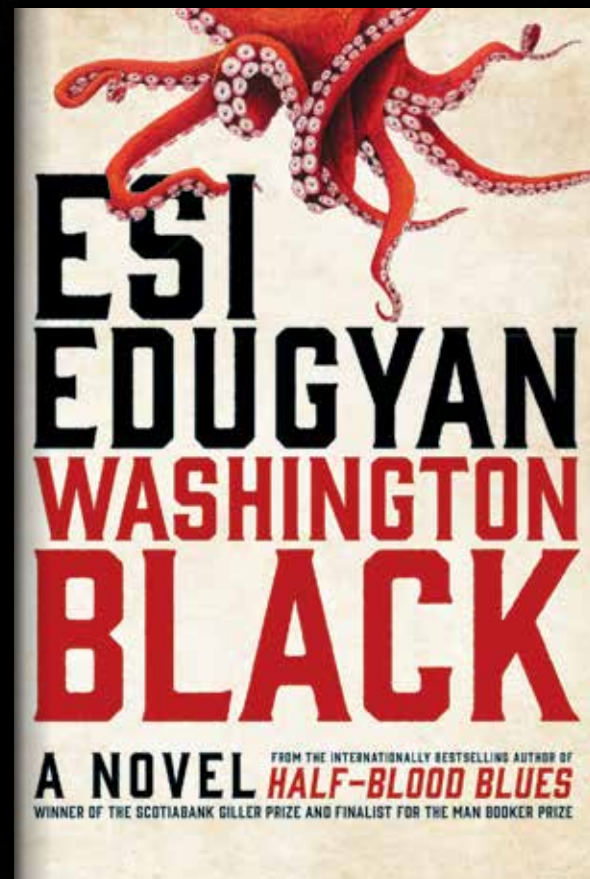
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GAIL ANDERSON-DARGATZ has been published worldwide in English and in many other languages in more than 15 territories. *The Cure for Death by Lightning* and *A Recipe for Bees*

were international bestsellers and were both finalists for the prestigious Giller Prize. *The Cure for Death by Lightning* won the UK's Betty Trask Prize, the BC Book Prize for Fiction, and the VanCity Book Prize. Her other books include *A Rhinestone Button*, *Turtle Valley*, and *The Spawning Grounds*. Gail mentors fiction writers around the world through her online teaching forums. She lives in the Shuswap in south-central British Columbia, the landscape found in so much of her writing. For more, visit her website at www.gailanderson-dargatz.ca.



LESLIE ANTHONY is a Whistler-based writer, editor, biologist and occasional filmmaker. A former editor at *Powder*, *Bike* and *SKIER* magazines, he continues his residence on the masthead of numerous ski and outdoor publications globally. At home, Anthony oversees award-winning *Mountain Life Annual*, pens a weekly column in *Pique Newsmagazine*, and writes broadly on travel, adventure, science and the environment in magazines like *Canadian Geographic*. Author of two previously acclaimed titles, *Snakebit* and *White Planet*, his latest book is *The Aliens Among Us: How invasive species are transforming the planet—and ourselves*.



SHARON BALA lives in St. John's, Newfoundland. She is a member of The Port Authority writing group. *The Boat People* is her first novel and was a finalist for Canada Reads 2018 and the 2018 Amazon Canada First Novel Award. Her short story "Butter Tea at Starbucks" won the 2017 Journey Prize.



FEET BANKS was born in 1976 and raised in Northern BC without electricity and his first friend was a rooster named Houdini. At age 12 his parents moved him to Whistler to live the dream. He studied

writing and film at the University of Victoria before returning home to continue living the dream while making stupid little horror movies with his friends. He is the founding editor of *Mountain Life Magazine*, the co-creator of the Heavy Hitting HorrorFest and his "Notes from the Back Row" movie column in the *Pique Newsmagazine* has been running weekly since 2003.



BILLY-RAY BELCOURT is from the Driftpile Cree Nation. He is a PhD student in the Dept. of English & Film Studies at the University of Alberta. His debut book, *This Wound is a World* (Frontenac House 2017), was the winner of the 2018 Griffin Poetry Prize. It was also named by CBC Books as the best "Canadian poetry" collection of 2017. His sophomore book, *NDN Coping Mechanisms: Notes from the Field*, is due out in the fall of 2019 with House of Anansi Press.



DUSTIN BENTALL is what you call a rustic troubadour, a counter-culture cowboy, and a purveyor in the finest of cosmic Canadiana. For years, Dustin has honed his rebel songwriting craft in every dive bar, club, and honky tonk across Canada. He's sought inspiration by following his musical heroes to the American desert and returned to write and sing the tales. And of course, music is embedded deeply in Dustin's DNA: his father is legendary BC rocker Barney Bentall. Every fall season, they hit the stage together for the Cariboo Express Tour. Along with several other talented souls, they raise thousands of dollars for local charities.



Musician, author, and filmmaker **DAVE BIDINI** is one of the founding members of Canadian rock group the Rheostatics and currently performs with Bidini-band. He is the only Canadian to

have been nominated for a Genie, Gemini, Juno, as well as CBC's "Canada Reads." He has published twelve books, including *Tropic of Hockey*, *Baseballissimo*, *On a Cold Road*, *Writing Gordon Lightfoot*, and *Keon and Me*. *Midnight Light: A Personal Journey to the North*, is Dave Bidini's fast, funny and, at times, powerfully poignant chronicle of the incredible time he spent "up there" in the NWT.



AMY BLACK is the Publisher of Doubleday Canada and Bond Street Books, imprints at Penguin Random House Canada. She got her start in publishing twenty

years ago, working in a variety of roles at small- and medium-sized publishing houses before beginning at Random House Canada in 2001 and then Doubleday Canada, where for a decade she headed up its Young Adult program. Amy has the good fortune to work alongside a group of exceptionally talented editors at Doubleday on the imprint's list of 40+ titles a year, which includes the 2017 Giller Prize-winning *Bellevue Square* by Michael Redhill, Therese Mailhot's bestselling memoir, *Heart Berries*, blockbuster thrillers from Shari Lapena and Linwood Barclay, as well as major international literary publications from Haruki Murakami and Marlon James.



PETER CAREY is the author of thirteen previous novels, including *Oscar and Lucinda*, *True History of the Kelly Gang* and *Amnesia*. In addition to the Booker Prize, his honours include the Commonwealth Writers' Prize and the Miles Franklin Literary Award. Born in Australia, he has lived in New York City for more than twenty-five years.



CLAUDIA CASPER is a Canadian writer. She is known for her bestselling novel *The Reconstruction*, about a woman who constructs a life-sized model of the hominid Lucy for a museum diorama while trying to recreate herself. Her second novel, *The Continuation of Love By Other Means*, was short-listed for the Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize. Casper's third novel, *The Mercy Journals*, written as the journals of a soldier suffering PTSD in a post climate-change world, won the 2017 Philip K. Dick Award for Distinguished Science Fiction. She is currently working on a French/Canada coproduction of a film adaptation of *The Reconstruction*.



KATE CASSADAY is an Executive Editor at HarperCollins Canada. Her mandate is to commission, acquire and develop projects from established and emerging voices and turn them into bestsellers and award-winners in categories that range from fiction to memoir to practical non-fiction to cookbooks and illustrated books. She has worked directly with Amy Poehler, Arlene Dickinson, Bryan Baeumler, Norm Macdonald, Michelle Knight, Silken Laumann, Gabourey Sidibe, Kelly Oxford, Zarqa Nawaz, Gail Vaz-Oxlade, Shannon Lee Simmons, Dennis Prescott, Sara Gruen, Matt Haig and many others. She loves to help shape each book from conception creating a finished book that authors are proud to put their name on, that media are eager to engage with and that readers will not just buy, but share with their friends and family.



KEVIN CHONG is the author of six books, including the memoir *My Year of the Racehorse* and the novels *Beauty Plus Pity* and *Baroque-a-Nova*. His work has been published in Canada, the US, France, Australia, and Macedonia, and has been shortlisted for the Hubert Evans Fiction Prize and a National Magazine Award. He lives in Vancouver, where he teaches at the University of British Columbia's Creative Writing Program and The Writers' Studio at Simon Fraser University. kevinchong.ca



LORNA CROZIER is the author of 17 books of poetry, the most recent *What the Soul Doesn't Want and God of Shadows*. She has been nominated for the Governor-General's Award for Poetry four times, receiving it for *Inventing the Hawk*. She's received the BC Lieutenant Governor's Award for her contribution to literature, five honorary doctorates, and most recently the George Woodcock Award for Lifetime Achievement.



CHARLES DEMERS is a comedian, writer, and playwright, and the author of such books as *The Horrors*, *Vancouver Special*, and (with George Bowering) *The Dad Dialogues*. He's a regular on CBC's *The Debaters* and is the voice of Walter the Slug on the Emmy-winning Netflix cartoon *Beat Bugs*. He is also the editor of Robin's Egg Books, a humour imprint of Arsenal Pulp Press. His latest book is *Property Values*, a crime novel set in Vancouver. A long-time political activist, he lives in East Vancouver with his wife and daughter.



Based in the UK, **KILMENY JANE DENNY** draws upon more than 25 years' experience in print and digital media to provide editing, design and website service to self-published authors through Vivalogue Publishing, a company she owns with Lynn Duncan. She was formerly the Assistant Editor at *Radio Times* and the Editor of the BBC Worldwide *Radio Times Guide to Films* (seven editions).



PENNY DRAPER is the author of numerous books for middle grade and high school readers, including the award-winning "Disaster Strikes!" series, historical fiction that places young protagonists at the centre of real Canadian disasters. She likes to look at literature from all sides, having worked at various times in her life as a book buyer, a book seller, a book binder, a book reviewer, a book editor and a book publisher. But even before the books, there was story. For many years Penny worked as a professional storyteller, sharing tales at schools, libraries, conferences, festivals, on radio and television, even in an Arabian harem and from inside a bear's belly. But those are stories for another time.



Prior to starting Vivalogue Publishing with Kilmeny Denny, **LYNN DUNCAN** had a successful career in Human Resources with several respected Canadian companies. Lynn runs Vivalogue's operations in Canada, providing business advice and editorial services to self-published authors.



ESI EDUGYAN is author of the novels *The Second Life of Samuel Tyne* and *Half-Blood Blues*, winner of the Scotiabank Giller Prize and finalist for the Man Booker Prize, the Governor General's Literary Award, the Rogers Writers' Trust Prize and the Orange Prize. In 2014, she published her first book of non-fiction, *Dreaming of Elsewhere: Observations on Home*. Esi's new novel is *Washington Black*.



BILL GASTON is the author of over a dozen novels and short fiction collections. He is the winner of numerous awards, including the 2003 inaugural Timothy Findley Lifetime Achievement Award and the CBC/Canadian Literary Award. He has been nominated twice for the Governor General's Award, and won the Ethel Wilson Prize for his novel *The World*. His latest book is a memoir, *Just Let Me Look At You: On Fatherhood*.



WAYNE GRADY has written more than a dozen books for adult and young readers, and is also one of Canada's top literary translators. His novel, *Emancipation Day*, won the 2013 Amazon.ca First Novel Award and was longlisted for the Scotiabank Giller Prize. His second novel, *Up From Freedom*, has just been published. Grady lives in Kingston, Ontario, with his wife, novelist and creative non-fiction writer Marilyn Simonds.



LAURIE GRASSI joined Simon & Schuster Canada in January 2017 as Senior Editor. Before that she worked in publishing for over two decades, notably as books editor at *Chatelaine* magazine, where she interviewed Elizabeth Gilbert, David Mitchell, Helen Humphreys, and David Nicholls, among others. Current authors include *New York Times* bestselling author Susanna Kearsley, Governor General's Award finalist Maria Mutch, and bestselling authors Daniel Kalla, Catherine McKenzie, Andrew Pyper, Nathan Ripley, and Patrick Senécal. Laurie actively acquires literary fiction, upmarket commercial novels, memoir, and narrative non-fiction. She is delighted by tales that delve into the art and literary worlds, has a taste for unconventional plot structures, and wants to fall for characters—miscreant and otherwise.



DARREN GROTH is the author of several novels, including the acclaimed YA works *Are You Seeing Me?* and *Munro vs. the Coyote*. He was the winner of the 2016 Adelaide Festival Award for Young Adult Fiction and has been a finalist in numerous other prestigious prizes, including the Governor General's Literary Award, the Sheila A. Egoff Children's Literature Prize and the CBCA Book of the Year. Darren is a former special-education teacher and the proud father of a son with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). His latest book is *Infinite Blue*, which he wrote with his brother Simon Groth. For more information, visit darrengroth.com.



SIMON GROTH is a writer and editor whose books include *Off The Record: 25 Years of Music Street Press* and *Hunted Down and Other Tales*. Simon's work and reporting on the future of the book with Queensland Writers Centre have seen him travel the globe to discuss and explore the challenges and opportunities for writers and readers in a digital world. His latest book is *Infinite Blue*, which he wrote with his brother Darren Groth. He lives in Brisbane, Australia. For more information, visit simongroth.com.



Born in Beirut, **RAWI HAGE** grew up in Lebanon and Cyprus and relocated to Montreal in 1991, where he studied Photography at Dawson College and Fine Arts at Concordia University. His debut novel, *De Niro's Game* (2006), won the 2008 International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award and was shortlisted for the 2006 Scotiabank Giller Prize and the 2006 Governor General's Award for English fiction. *De Niro's Game* was also awarded the Hugh MacLennan Prize for Fiction and the McAuslan First Book Prize. His second novel, *Cockroach*, was published in 2008 and was also shortlisted for the Giller Prize, the Governor General's Award and the Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize. He was the winner of the Hugh MacLennan Prize for Fiction in 2008 and 2012 for his books *Cockroach* and *Carnival*, respectively.



IAN HAMILTON is the author of the Ava Lee series. The books have been shortlisted for numerous prizes, including the Arthur Ellis Award, the Barry Award, and the Lambda Literary Prize, and are national bestsellers. *The Water Rat of Wanchai* was the winner of the Arthur Ellis Award for Best First Novel and was named a best book of the year by Amazon.ca, the *Toronto Star*, and *Quill & Quire*. BBC Culture named Hamilton "One of the Ten Mystery/Crime Writers from the Last Thirty Years That Should Be on Your Bookshelf." The series is being adapted for television.



ALI HASSAN is a stand-up comic, actor and radio & television personality. For the past two years, he has hosted *Canada Reads*, the annual "Battle of the Books" on CBC Radio and Television. He is also the regular host of *Laugh Out Loud* on CBC Radio and SiriusXM, and a frequent guest-host on q, Canada's national arts and entertainment radio program. You may also recognize Ali has appeared on shows such as *Designated Survivor* (ABC), *Man Seeking Woman* (FX), *Odd Squad* (PBS Kids), and the CTV series *Cardinal*, among others. Ali has also starred in the films *Breakaway*, *French Immersion* and *GOON*. He brings 12 years of experience performing stand-up comedy internationally, including at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in the UK, and is currently touring his solo show *Muslim, Interrupted* across Canada.



CORNELIA HOOGLAND's most recent book of poetry *Trailer Park Elegy*, (Harbour, 2017) was short-listed for the League of Canadian Poets' 2018 Raymond Souster Award. She writes about, and sits on panel discussions of the Long Poem form. Hoogland's full-length play *RED* (Fountainhead Theatre, directed by John Gerry), is based on the fairy tale, Red Riding Hood, as is *Woods Wolf Girl* (Wolsak and Wynn), which was short-listed for the ReLit Award. Two short-list nods from the CBC Literary Awards include "Tourists Stroll a Victoria Waterway" (Poetry) and "Sea Level" (Non-Fiction).



JOEL THOMAS HYNES's most recent novel *We'll All Be Burnt in Our Beds Some Night* won the Governor General's Award for Fiction, the BMO Winterset Award, and longlisted for the Scotiabank Giller Prize. Other works include *Down to the Dirt* (adapted to screen in 2008), *Right Away Monday*, *Straight Razor Days*, *God Help Thee: A Manifesto* and *Say Nothing Saw Wood* (adapted, by Hynes, to the big screen under the title *Cast No Shadow* and won numerous awards including four Canadian Screen Award Nominations). Hynes is the creator, an executive producer and lead actor for the new CBC comedy series *Little Dog* and recently released his first full length album, *Dead Man's Melody*, available on iTunes, Spotify and CDBaby.



VICI JOHNSTONE has worked in theatre, radio, television, film and digital media. She entered the publishing industry in 2006 when she was hired by Harbour Publishing as the production manager, and later the managing editor and general manager. She purchased Caitlin Press in 2008. Since that time, she has published dozens of titles, and in 2015, edited *This Place a Stranger: Canadian Women Travelling Alone*.



BRIAN KAUFMAN is a writer, editor, and publisher and has been active in the publishing community for over twenty-five years. Mr. Kaufman has ushered over 200 books and 79 issues of *subTerrain Magazine* into print and has served as the Executive Director of the subTerrain Literary Collective Society since its inception in 1988. In 2009, Mr. Kaufman was a recipient of the City of Vancouver's Mayor's Arts Award for his "significant contribution to Vancouver's arts and cultural community, for shaping Vancouver as a creative city, and for enriching the lives of Vancouver's citizens." Brian was given the Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2014 Western Magazine Awards.



PATRICK LANE is an Officer of the Order of Canada. He has published 32 books of poetry, fiction, and non-fiction, and has received many awards for his writing, including the Governor General's Award for Poetry (1979), the Canadian Authors Association Award for Poetry (1988), and two National Magazine Awards. Lane's current novel is *Deep River Night*. He lives near Victoria, British Columbia, with poet Lorna Crozier.



GRANT LAWRENCE is a popular CBC personality and the author of three books: *Adventures In Solitude*, *The Lonely End of the Rink*, and *Dirty Windshields*. His first two titles won the Bill Duthie Booksellers Choice Award at the BC Book Prizes, marking the first time that the same author has won this prize twice. Grant Lawrence is also a Canadian Screen Award winner, the lead singer of the Smugglers, a columnist for the Vancouver Courier, and the goalie for the Flying Vees beer league hockey team. Grant deeply savours his time (in the hot tub) at the Whistler Readers and Writers Festival.



EVE LAZARUS is a journalist, crime historian, blogger and author. Her passion for non-traditional history and a fascination with murder has led to six books of non-fiction including the BC bestsellers *Blood, Sweat, and Fear: the story of Inspector Vance*, *Vancouver's first forensic investigator* (2017); *Cold Case Vancouver: the city's most baffling unsolved murders* (2015); and *Sensational Vancouver* (2014). Eve blogs at Every Place has a Story – www.evelazarus.com and curates a Facebook page under the same name. Her latest release is *Murder by Milkshake: An Astonishing True Story of Adultery, Arsenic, and a Charismatic Killer*.



SARA LEACH is the author of seven books for children. Her most recent book, *Slug Days*, received an honourable mention for the Foreword Indie Book Award for Juvenile Fiction and has been nominated for the Chocolate Lily Book Award. Its sequel, *Penguin Days*, will be published in 2019. Her middle grade novel *Count Me In* has been translated into four languages, and won the Red Cedar Book Award. Sara hails from Whistler, BC, where she works as a teacher-librarian and plays on the trails.



MARY MACDONALD is a poet and writer with a Ph.D. from UBC. She has written poetry for ballet, public art, and libretto. Her work has appeared in *Room Magazine* and *Pique Newsmagazine*. Her chapbook, *Going In Now*, was published in 2014 by NIB Publishing. She is a member of the Whistler writers group The Vicious Circle.



DARREL J. MCLEOD is Cree from treaty eight territory in Northern Alberta. Before pursuing writing in his retirement he was a chief negotiator of land claims for the federal government and executive director of education and international affairs with the assembly of First Nations. He holds degrees in French Literature and Education from UBC. Darrel is working on a second memoir following the events in *Mamaskatch: A Cree Coming of Age*. In the spring of 2018, he was accepted into the Banff Writing Studio to focus on his first work of fiction. Darrel lives, writes, sings and plays jazz guitar in Sooke B.C.



MAUREEN MEDVED is a novelist, screenwriter, playwright and Associate Professor in the Creative Writing Program at the University of British Columbia. She has written essays on television and film. Her debut novel, *The Tracey Fragments*, was published by House of Anansi Press, and Maureen's screen adaptation (directed by Bruce MacDonald and starring Ellen Page) opened the Panorama program of the 57th annual Berlin International Film Festival and won the Manfred Salzgeber Prize. Her novel *Black Star* was published in 2018. A non fiction collection will be forthcoming in 2019.



LISA MOORE is the acclaimed author of the novels *Caught*, *February*, and *Alligator*. *Caught* was a finalist for Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction and the Scotiabank Giller Prize and is now a major CBC television series starring Allan Hawco. *February* won CBC's Canada Reads competition, was longlisted for the Man Booker Prize, and was named a New Yorker Best Book of the Year, and a *Globe and Mail* Top 100 Book. *Alligator* was a finalist for the Scotiabank Giller Prize and won the Commonwealth Writers' Prize (Canada and the Caribbean), and was a national bestseller. Her story collection *Open* was a finalist for the Scotiabank Giller Prize and a national bestseller. Moore's most recent book is *Something for Everyone*. She lives in St. John's, Newfoundland.



NIDHI RAINA started cooking and baking as a hobby in her twenties while flying with British Airways, and later working as a corporate trainer in healthcare in California. She picked up tips and skills at Alpine Cafe in Whistler and The Pony Espresso in Pemberton. Nidhi focuses on baked samosas and other vegan, gluten-free baked options at the Whistler Farmers' Market, and brings British baking and North American classics to the Pemberton Market. She loves to cook all things warm and curried, the recipes originating from her roots in Kashmir and North India with its wealth of spices, and delicious vegetarian and meat-based dishes from the mighty Himalayas.



JANE REID is a passionate locavore who fell in love with British Columbia's bounty, one fruit and vegetable at a time. She enjoys exploring every corner of the province, finding new and beautiful places, visiting farmers markets, roadside stands, U-picks, orchards, and vineyards on the way. Jane loves to learn more about where, when, and how we get our food by talking with farmers, friends, and produce managers. Her writings on local harvests have appeared in *Edible Vancouver & Wine Country* magazine. Reid is the author of *Freshly Picked: A Locavore's Love Affair with BC's Bounty*.



LORI RENNIE has been providing printing solutions to authors and publishers for over 28 years and, prior to that, sold books for a small publisher in Toronto. She is the National Accounts Manager for Marquis Book Printing. Lori resides in Toronto and services clients across Canada and the US.



ELIZABETH RENZETTI is a columnist for the *Globe and Mail*, and has reported for many years from Toronto, Los Angeles, and London. She is also the bestselling author of the novel *Based on a True Story*, which was a finalist for the Kobo Emerging Writer Prize and a Canadian bestseller. Her latest book is a collection of essays titled *Shrewed: A Wry and Closely Observed Look at the Lives of Women and Girls*. She lives in Toronto with her husband, author and *Globe and Mail* columnist Doug Saunders, and their two children.



NICOLETTE RICHER is an Orthomolecular Health Educator, entrepreneur, Doctoral student, author and speaker. She is a savvy wellness facilitator and a renowned environmental and sustainability expert, with an insatiable desire to learn and educate. Nicolette transforms people with chronic illness or cancer into conquerors of their condition through psychology + nutrition, and she created The Green Moustache Organic Café, Richer Health and the Richer Health Nutrition + Detox Wellness Centre to spread the message of optimum health through nutrition. Nicolette speaks regularly to captivated audiences on the subjects of healing cancer + chronic disease through nutrification and detoxification. Nicolette is the author of *Eat Real to Heal: Using the Gerson Method to Boost Your Immunity, Beat Disease, Build Energy and Heal Your Body*.



DOUGLAS RICHMOND is an editor at House of Anansi Press. He previously held editorial positions at University of Toronto Press and HarperCollins Canada, where he worked on a diverse list of bestselling and award-winning titles ranging from literary and commercial fiction to memoir, sports, and narrative non-fiction. Current authors include Jonathan Garfinkel, Joshua M. Ferguson, Nick Mount, Tessa Virtue & Scott Moir, David Albertyn, Deon Meyer, Jonas Hassen Khemiri, Shane Chartrand, Melanie Raabe, Liam McIlvanney, Scott Thornley, Michael Melgaard, and Ian Hamilton, among others. Douglas actively acquires literary and upmarket commercial fiction, crime/psychological thrillers, memoir, pop culture, and cookbooks.



Haisla/Heiltsuk novelist **EDEN ROBINSON** is the author of a collection of short stories written when she was a Goth called *Traplines*, which won the Winifred Holtby Prize in the UK. Her two previous novels, *Monkey Beach* and *Blood Sports*, were written before she discovered she was gluten-intolerant and tend to be quite grim, the latter being especially gruesome because half-way through writing the manuscript, Robinson gave up a two-pack a day cigarette habit and the more she suffered, the more her characters suffered. *Monkey Beach* won the Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize and was a finalist for the Giller Prize and the Governor General's Award for Fiction. *Trickster Drift* is the much-anticipated follow-up to *Son of a Trickster*, a finalist for the Scotiabank Giller Prize. In 2017, Eden won the Writers' Trust of Canada Fellowship. She lives in Kitimat, BC.



JANET MARIE ROGERS is a Mohawk/Tuscarora writer from Six Nations. She was born in Vancouver British Columbia, lived in Stoney Creek, Hamilton, Toronto Ontario and is currently of no fixed address as she is awarded residency after residency throughout 2018-2019. Janet works in the genres of poetry, spoken word performance poetry, video poetry and recorded poetry with music. Janet is also a radio broadcaster, documentary producer, media and sound artist. Her literary titles include; *Splitting the Heart*, Ekstasis Editions 2007, *Red Erotic*, Ojstah Publishing 2010, *Unearthed*, Leaf Press 2011 “Peace in Duress” Talonbooks 2014 and *Totem Poles and Railroads* ARP Books 2016 and a forthcoming title *As Long as the Sun Shines* (Modern Indigenous Voices), Bookland Press fall 2018.



LAISHA ROSNAU is the author of *The Sudden Weight of Snow* (McClelland and Stewart, 2002), which was an honourable mention for the Amazon/Books in Canada First Novel Award. Rosnau’s first collection of poetry, *Notes on Leaving* (Nightwood, 2004), won the 2005 Acorn-Plantos People’s Poetry Award. Her second, *Lousy Explorers* (Nightwood, 2009), was a finalist for the Pat Lowther Award for best book of poetry by a Canadian woman. *Pluck* (Nightwood, 2014), was nominated for the Raymond Souster Award. Rosnau teaches fiction and poetry at UBC, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver Film School and Okanagan College. Her latest book is *Our Familiar Hunger*. She and her family are the resident caretakers of Bishop Wild Bird Sanctuary in Coldstream, BC.



CLAIRE SICHERMAN is a graduate of the creative non-fiction program at The Humber School for Writers. She facilitates a Journaling Circle on Salt Spring Island, which is part of a multi-generational writing project called Home Words. Claire is interested in exploring how we hold trauma and emotions in our bodies and self-regulation techniques, and has recently completed a teacher training program in Yin Yoga and Trauma Informed Yoga. Sicherman is the author of *Imprint: A Memoir of Trauma in the Third Generation*.



MERILYN SIMONDS is the author of 18 books, including *Gutenberg’s Fingerprint*, a 2017 *Globe* Best Book, *The Holding*, a *New York Times Book Review* Editors’ Choice, and the Canadian classic work of creative non-fiction, *The Convict Lover*, a finalist for the Governor General’s Award. Her work has been anthologized and published internationally. In 2017, Project Bookmark Canada unveiled a plaque to honor the place of *The Convict Lover* in Canada’s literary landscape. She grew up in South America and now divides her time between Kingston, Ontario, and Mexico. Her latest novel, *Refuge*, was published this fall.



CAROLYN MARIE SQUAID is the award-winning author of the novel, *Yasmeen Haddad Loves Joanasi Maqaittik*, set in Northern Quebec, and seven poetry collections, most recently *This World We Invented*. She has performed at festivals and literary events in Europe, Canada and the U.S. and her work has been translated into French, Arabic, Spanish and Slovenian. Her poems and short stories have appeared in magazines including *The Malahat Review*, *The New Quarterly*, and the *Literary Review of Canada*, and have been featured on CBC Radio. She lives in Montreal.



THE SEA TO SKY ORCHESTRA is a 14-member strings ensemble featuring violin, viola, and cello players, and a harpsichord/organ player from Pemberton, Whistler and Squamish. Founded in 2014, the group is passionate about sharing the music of Vivaldi, Bach, Mozart and other classical composers to audiences throughout the corridor.



Born in Saigon in 1968, **KIM THÚY** left Vietnam with the boat people at the age of 10 and settled with her family in Quebec. A graduate in translation and law, she has worked as a seamstress, interpreter, lawyer, restaurant owner and food commentator on radio and television. She lives in Montreal and devotes herself to writing. In 2013, Kim Thúy was awarded the Paul-Gérin-Lajoie Award for Diversity by the organization ENSEMBLE for the respect of diversity. Kim Thúy has been appointed a Knight of the Ordre national du Québec. In 2017, she was awarded an honorary doctorate by Concordia University, for giving eloquent voice to the refugee experience, and the Medal of Honour of the National Assembly of Québec. Her debut novel *Ru* won the Governor General’s Award for French-language fiction and the 2015 edition of Canada Reads. Her third and most recent novel, *Vi* was published in 2018.



DANIA TOMLINSON grew up in the Okanagan, and still lives there with her husband and young daughter. Dania’s fiction has won awards and been published in literary magazines, including *Room* and *SubTerrain*. *Our Animal Hearts* is her first novel.



STEPHEN VOGLER is the author of *Only in Whistler: Tales of a Mountain Town* and *Top of the Pass: Whistler and the Sea-to-Sky Country*, both published by Harbour Publishing. He has written radio documentaries and commentaries for CBC Radio’s Ideas, DNT0 and Outfront programs, and contributed to *Explore Magazine*, *Hobo Magazine*, *The Globe and Mail*, and the *Georgia Straight* among other publications. Stephen is also a songwriter and musician who performs solo and with bands Some Assembly Required and The Hounds of Buskerville. He is the founder of The Point Artist-Run Centre in Whistler. stephenvogler.com



HAL WAKE has been engaged with the literary community in Canada for more than 30 years. He has conducted on-stage interviews with Alice Munro, Jonathan Safran Foer, Richard Ford, Sharon Olds, Rohinton Mistry, Michael Chabon, Joseph Boyden and Anne Michaels amongst many others. In the mid-’80’s he was the book producer for the most influential public radio program in Canada, *Morningside* with Peter Gzowski. He has hosted or moderated hundreds of literary events at Festivals in Vancouver, Victoria, Sechelt, New York, London (UK), Auckland, Melbourne and Sydney, Australia. He is an Honorary Member of the Writers Union of Canada and he recently completed 12 years as the Artistic Director of the Vancouver Writers Fest.



K. JANE WATT PhD, principal of Fenton Street Publishing House, works with academic, corporate, government, and non-profit clients to tell the stories of BC. She is an author and editor who has written numerous regional histories, including *High Water: Living with the Fraser Floods*, winner of the BCHF’s Lieutenant-Governor’s medal for historical writing in 2006. Her 2017 book *Surrey: A City of Stories* was a finalist in the BC Book Prize’s Roderick Haig-Brown Regional Prize.



SAM WIEBE is the author of the Vancouver crime novels *Cut You Down*, *Invisible Dead*, and *Last of the Independents*. Wiebe’s work has won an Arthur Ellis award and the Kobo Emerging Writers Prize, and been shortlisted for the Shamus Award and the City of Vancouver Book Award. His short stories have appeared in *Thuglit*, *Spinetingler*, and *subTerrain*, and he was the 2016 Vancouver Public Library Writer in Residence. Visit samwiebe.com or follow at @sam_wiebe



MEGAN WILLIAMS is the award-winning author of *Our Interrupted Fairy Tale* and also the co-authored a children’s book with her 10-year-old step-daughter, Madison. Through The Self Publishing Agency, Megan supports indie authors in writing, publishing and marketing their books. Her clients have been featured in The New York Times, The Globe and Mail and Global TV and their books are frequent “staff picks” choices at Chapters/Indigo.



REBECCA WOOD BARRETT is an award-winning filmmaker and writer living in Whistler, BC. She has made over 35 short films, and is a six-time finalist in the World Ski and Snowboard Festival’s 72 Hour Filmmaker Showdown, including the film *Rush*—a ski-ballet mockumentary which won the People’s Choice Award. Rebecca’s short fiction has been published in *Room*, *The Antigonish Review* and *Pique Newsmagazine*.



ANDREW WOOLDRIDGE is the owner and Publisher at Orca Book Publishers in Victoria, BC. After starting in the warehouse more than 25 years ago, he has performed many publishing duties including editor, marketer, fork lift driver and, most successfully, squirrel catcher. Andrew is on the board of the Association of Canadian Publishers and of the Association of Book Publishers of BC.



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