

# Coach House Books

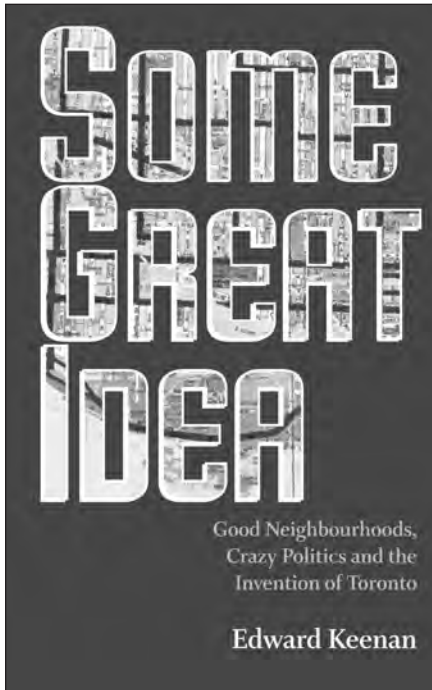
Fall 2012



# Some Great Idea

Good Neighbourhoods, Crazy Politics and the Invention of Toronto

by Edward Keenan



Since 2010 Toronto's headlines have been consumed by the outrageous personal foibles and government-slashing, anti-urbanist policies of Mayor Rob Ford. But the heated debate at City Hall has obscured a bigger, decade-long narrative of Toronto's ascendance as a mature global city. It raises questions: What role does a mayor play in a city's temperament and self-confidence? Can an unpopular mayor make a city better by forcing its citizens to engage? What place is there in our new decentralized, global, open-source world for an autocrat?

ISBN 978 1 55245 266 0

EISBN 978 1 77056 326 1

\$12.00 CDN | US

4.5" x 7.5" PB, 104 PAGES

URBAN STUDIES

SOC026030 | POL002000

SEPTEMBER 2012

Edward Keenan serves as senior editor and lead columnist at *The Grid* magazine in Toronto. An eight-time finalist at the National Magazine Awards, he was the top editor at *Eye Weekly*, is a contributing editor at *Spacing* magazine, and writes widely on politics, sports and culture.



# Miłosz

a novel by Cordelia Strube

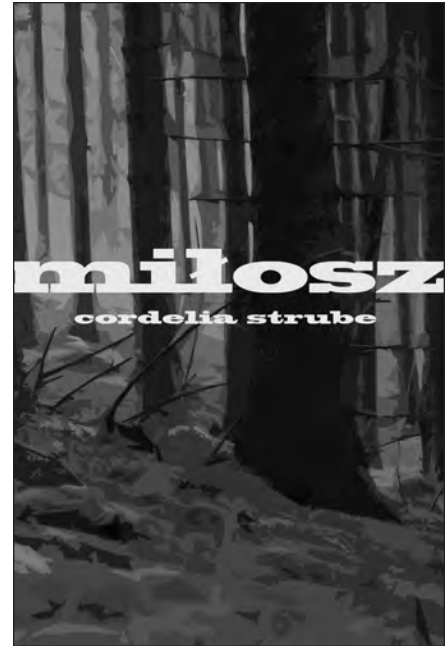
Milo doesn't quite have it all together. His acting career has stalled. His Latvian girlfriend dumped him. His miserable father has vanished. And Pablo and Wallace – and then Wallace's mother too – seem to have moved in to his house. Really, the only person Milo likes is Robertson, the autistic eleven-year-old who lives next door. So when Robertson gets bullied and his dad moves out, Milo is finally spurred to action. Milo being Milo, though, even his best intentions go awry, and soon Robertson's dad is in the hospital, Milo's lost in the woods during an acting experiment and Gustaw, his dad, may have returned from the dead.

Praise for *Lemon*:

'Cordelia Strube is a terrific novelist ... Strube doesn't do sugar. She does vinegar. The condiments of the moment need to be sour, and we should honour Strube for her currency.'

– *Toronto Star*

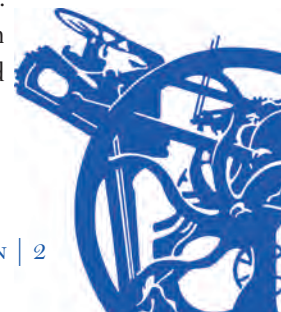
'Bitingly funny ... In introducing readers to the indomitable Lemon, Strube has taken us on a remarkable trip – part literary kaleidoscope, part emotional roller coaster – into the life and mind of a young girl searching for a love she can't quite bring herself to believe in.' – *National Post*



ISBN 978 1 55245 265 3  
EISBN 978 1 77056 329 2  
\$19.95 CDN | \$17.95 US  
5 X 8 PB, 280 PAGES  
FICTION  
FIC019000 | FIC000000  
SEPTEMBER 2012

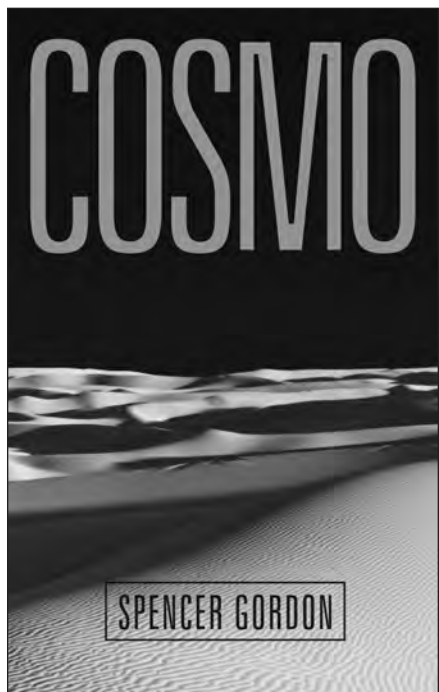


Cordelia Strube has won the CBC Literary Competition for her play *Mortal* and the Toronto Arts Foundation Protégé Award and she has been shortlisted for the Prix Italia and the Governor General's Award. Her eight previous novels include *Milton's Elements*, *Dr. Kalbfleisch* and *the Chicken Restaurant*, *Planet Reese* and *Lemon*, which was longlisted for the 2010 Scotiabank Giller Prize and shortlisted for the 2010 Trillium Award.



# Cosmo

short fiction by Spencer Gordon



ISBN 978 1 55245 267 7  
EISBN 978 1 77056 331 5  
\$18.95 CDN | \$16.95 US  
5 X 8 PB, 200 PAGES  
FICTION  
FIC029000 | FIC000000  
OCTOBER 2012

An admirer of Miley Cyrus performs a three-thousand word sentence in defence of his passion. Actor Matthew McConaughey descends into a surreal, stupefying desert of the soul. An aging porn star dons a grotesque dinosaur costume to film the sex scene of his life. Such are the speakers and stars of a collection of stories that explode the conventions of short fiction.

Though shifting wildly in tone, structure and perspective from one page to the next, each of these mercurial stories is drenched in pop culture, the distancing effects of modern communication and the malaise of solitary existence. At their core, these stories are a portrait of ordinary people (as well as celebrities – they’re just like us!) striving, thinking and suffering alone.

Praise for *Cosmo*:

‘Try any first page here, and, if you are not mouth agape with voyeuristic thrill, then this writer is not Spencer Gordon, one of the most daring writers I’ve ever come across. These stories read like collaborations between Stephen King and TMZ with Borges and Nabokov on the edits. Each short story sounds with the thunder of a novel. Enthralling, dark, gut-busting stuff!’

– Jeff Parker, author of *Ovenman* and *Igor in Crisis: A Russian Journal*

Spencer Gordon holds an MA from the University of Toronto. He is co-editor of the online literary journal *The Puritan* and the Toronto-based micro-press Ferno House. His own stories, articles and poems have been published in numerous periodicals and anthologies. He blogs at [dangerousliterature.blogspot.com](http://dangerousliterature.blogspot.com) and teaches writing at Humber College.

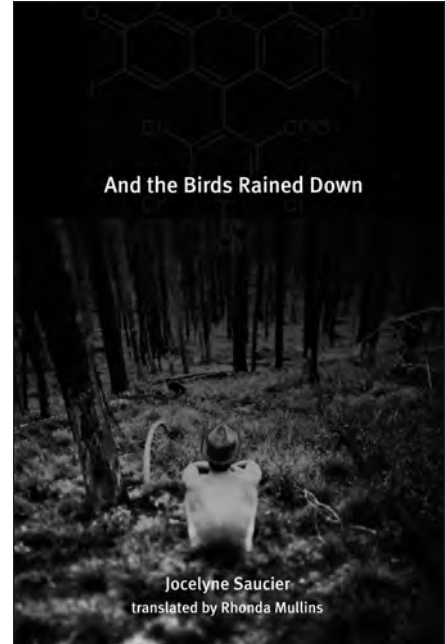


# And the Birds Rained Down

a novel by Jocelyne Saucier  
translated from the French by Rhonda Mullins

Tom and Charlie have decided to live out the remainder of their lives on their own terms, hidden away in a remote forest, their only connection to the outside world a couple of pot growers who deliver whatever they can't eke out for themselves. But one summer two women arrive. One is a young photographer documenting a series of catastrophic forest fires that swept Northern Ontario early in the century; she's on the trail of the recently deceased Ted Boychuck, a survivor of the blaze. And then the elderly aunt of the one of the pot growers appears, fleeing one of the psychiatric institutions that have been her home since she was sixteen. She joins the men in the woods and begins a new life as Marie-Desneige. With the photographer's help, they find Ted's series of paintings about the fire, and begin to decipher the dead man's history.

A haunting meditation on aging and self-determination, *And the Birds Rained Down*, originally published in French as *Il pleuvait des oiseaux*, was the winner of the *Prix des Cinq Continents de la Francophonie*, the first Canadian title to win this honour. It was winner of the *Prix des lecteurs Radio-Canada*, the *Prix des collégiens du Québec* and a finalist for the *Grand Prix de la ville de Montréal*.



ISBN 978 1 55245 268 4  
EISBN 978 1 77056 333 9  
\$18.95 CDN | \$16.95 US  
5 X 8 PB, 160 PAGES  
FICTION  
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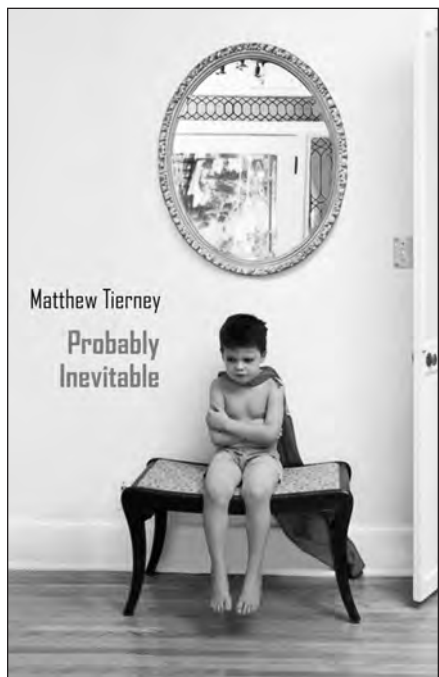


**Jocelyne Saucier** was born in New Brunswick. Two of her previous novels, *La vie comme une image* and *Jeanne sur les routes*, were finalists for the Governor General's Award. Her latest novel, *Il pleuvait des oiseaux*, garnered her the Prix des Cinq Continents de la Francophonie, making her the first Canadian to win the award. She lives in Abitibi, in northwestern Quebec. **Rhonda Mullins** is a translator, writer and editor. Mullins was a finalist for the 2007 Governor General's Literary Award for Translation for *The Decline of the Hollywood Empire* by Hervé Fischer. She previously translated Jocelyne Saucier's *Jeanne sur les routes* into *Jeanne's Road* (2010, Cormorant Books). Mullins lives in Montreal.



# Probably Inevitable

poetry by Matthew Tierney



ISBN 978 1 55245 261 5  
EISBN 978 1 77056 318 6  
\$17.95 CDN | \$15.95 US  
5 X 8 PB, 96 PAGES  
POETRY  
POE011000 | POE000000  
SEPTEMBER 2012

*If it were necessary to tell someone where I am,  
I'd say the spheres of Kepler resonate like icicles.*

*I'd say I have loved.*

These are high-energy poems, riddled with wit and legerdemain and jolted by the philosophy and science of time. "Time's not the market, it's the bustle; / not the price but worth," he muses, sailing through the rhythms and algorithms of a world made concrete by Samuel Johnson, before it was undone by Niels Bohr. Tierney's narrators grapple with the gap between what's seen and what's experienced, their minds tuned to one (probably) inevitable truth: the more I understand, the more I understand I'm alone.

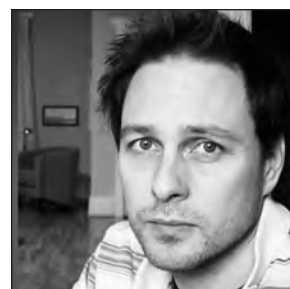
What continues to set Matthew Tierney's poems apart is their uncanny ability to find within the nomenclature of science not mere novelty but a new path to human frailty, a renewed assertion of individuality, and a genuine awe at existence.

Praise for *The Hayflick Limit*:

'Tierney accomplishes certain Albert Goldbarthian feats, weaving whiz-bang with philosophical insights that will break your heart.' – *American Literary Review*

'Aiming for the unknown inside the known, freedom inside our biological limits, Tierney's strategized, highly fluent poems ... break from self-consciousness into true, heartfelt insight.'  
– *Winnipeg Free Press*

Matthew Tierney is the author of two previous books of poetry. His second, *The Hayflick Limit*, was shortlisted for a Trillium Book Award. He is a former recipient of the K.M. Hunter Award, and has placed his poems in numerous journals and magazines across Canada. He lives in Toronto.



# The Politics of Knives

poetry by Jonathan Ball

*She made hyphens, made me use them.  
Pulled brackets from her back. Saying:  
'These in your throat and these around your neck.'*

If Lisa Robertson were to collide with David Lynch in a dark alley, the result would be a lot like *The Politics of Knives*. From shattered narratives to surrealistic fantasies, the poems in *The Politics of Knives* bridge the gap between the conventional and the experimental, combining the intellectual with the visceral. The complicity of language in violence, and the production of stories as both a defensive and offensive gesture, trouble the stability of these poetic sequences that dwell in the borderland between speaking and screaming.

Praise for Jonathan Ball:

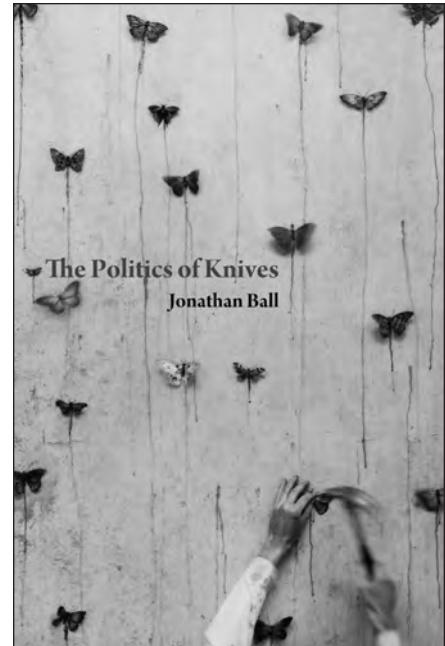
'[Ball is] one of our most exciting young poets.'  
– Robert Kroetsch

'I consider Jonathan Ball's *Clockfire* to be in the top handful of poetry titles last year in this country. No prize for him, alas, but lots of buzz and engagement and, for this reader in any case, the sense of a poet settling into the saddle for a while. Ball is a confident, smart poet. Very smart.' – Sina Queyras

'While a fine example of contemporary poetic writing, *Clockfire* could also entertain a wider audience intrigued by fantasy that beaks out beyond genre borders.' – Douglas Barbour



**Jonathan Ball** teaches English, film and writing at universities in Winnipeg. He is the author of *Ex Machina* and *Clockfire*, which was shortlisted for a Manitoba Book Award. *Ex Machina* considers the relationship between humans, books and machines, and *Clockfire* contains 77 plays that would be impossible to produce. Both books were published under Creative Commons licenses, so you can remix their contents. Visit him online at [www.jonathanball.com](http://www.jonathanball.com) or [@jonathanballcom](https://twitter.com/jonathanballcom).

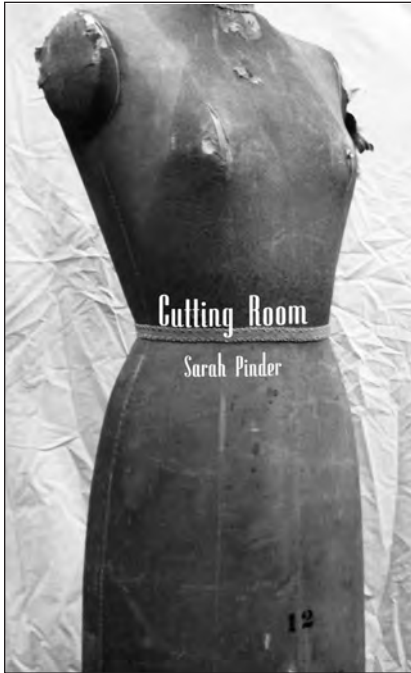


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OCTOBER 2012



# Cutting Room

poetry by Sarah Pinder



ISBN 978 1 55245 264 6  
EISBN 978 1 77056 324 7  
\$17.95 CDN | \$15.95 US  
5 X 8 PB, 72 PAGES  
POETRY  
POE011000 | POE000000  
SEPTEMBER 2012

*Let their ribs stretch out – there is no figure  
which is not also a ground in*

*its arctic plane. Cutting rooms as luck  
would have it have academic sincerity.*

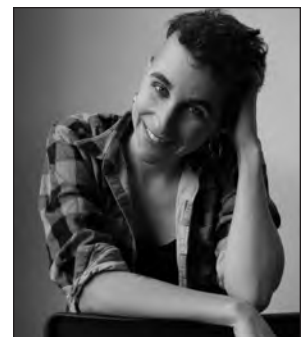
*Cutting Room* both describes and pushes against the anxious hum of the technologically saturated present. Sarah Pinder's poems navigate domestic and 'natural' spaces as landscapes charged with possible violence and desire. Using hyper-focus and the long gaze, they draw the eye to the corners and seams of these spaces, slowing us down, shifting our focus to worn detail, asking us to seek pattern and possibility in a hyper-paced present tense. These are little ominous films, documenting the minutiae around us that can be our undoing.

Praise for *Cutting Room*:

'I can't tell whether these poems are glass or shatterproof glass. They're delicate, clear, tough, opaque, breakable. Sarah Pinder makes everything new.'

– Roo Borson, author of *Short Journey Upriver Toward Oishida*

Sarah Pinder was born in Sault Ste Marie. Her poetry has appeared in various literary journals and small magazines, as well as the anthology *She's Shameless*. She lives in Toronto.





# The Lease

poetry by Mathew Henderson

*No mark survives this place: you too will yield  
to unmemory. Give everything you are  
in three-day pieces. Watch the gypsy iron  
move, follow its commands.  
Tend the rusted steel like a shepherd.*

Inspired largely by the poet's experiences as a young man working in the Saskatchewan and Albertan oilfields, Mathew Henderson's *The Lease* explores masculinity and the roles morality, violence and hard labor play in it. Equal parts character study, cultural documentary and coming-of-age narrative, Henderson's poems make it clear that however we may try to stay apart from them, the stubborn and often unflattering realities of masculine culture persist, not just in isolated, dangerous environments like this, but in our very idea of what work is.

Praise for *The Lease*:

'The tactile beauty of Mathew Henderson's poems feels physically earned, carried across hard distances. We want to stay close to this voice we half-know and these lines, never burdened but speech-weighted, so carefully set down. The poems extend with great honesty a tradition of writing about the kind of working life that might kill you now or in time. What's drawn here are the unequal wages of hand and heart.'

– Michael Helm, author of *Cities of Refuge*



ISBN 978 1 55245 263 9  
EISBN 978 1 77056 322 3  
\$17.95 CDN | \$15.95 US  
5 X 8 PB, 72 PAGES  
POETRY  
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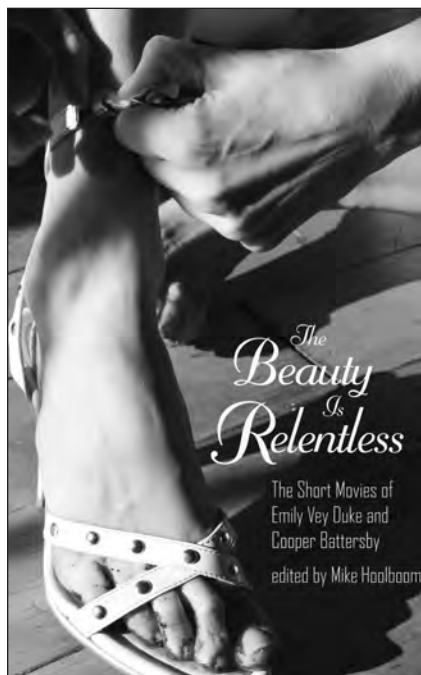


**Mathew Henderson** is a recent graduate of the University of Guelph's MFA program. Originally from Prince Edward Island, he now lives in Toronto, writes about the prairies and teaches at Humber College.



# The Beauty Is Relentless

The Short Movies of Emily Vey Duke and Cooper Battersby  
edited by Mike Hoolboom



The literary post-punk short movies of Emily Vey Duke and Cooper Battersby have been tearing up the festival/gallery circuit for the past fifteen years with their blend of bedroom pop, perverse animations and hopes for fame. In this collection of award-winning scripts, creative writings and critical missives, scholars, video legends and animal experts – including Steve Reinke, Sarah Hollenberg, Akira Lippit and Tom Sherman – weigh in on why these movies matter

Praise for Emily Vey Duke and Cooper Battersby's work:

'[Here] exists a kind of nakedness, a peeling away of propriety, a questioning of behavioral and social systems – and yet I find their work refreshingly playful and deeply generous.'

– Deborah Stratman, University of Illinois at Chicago

ISBN 978 0 96821 155 7

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5 x 8 PB, 200 PAGES

PUBLISHED BY PLEASURE DOME

AND THE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY

CANADIAN ART

AGENTED TITLE

FILM

ART057000 | ART016000

AUGUST 2012

Emily Vey Duke and Cooper Battersby have been collaborating since 1994. Their work has won the top prize at festivals in Ann Arbor and Chicago, and awards in New York, Zurich and Hamburg. They teach at Syracuse University. [Mike Hoolboom](#) is an internationally renowned experimental moviemaker and critic.



# Selected Backlist Nonfiction

## Full Frontal T.O.: Exploring Toronto's Architectural Vernacular

photos by Patrick Cummins  
text by Shawn Micallef

156 PGS • MAY 2011  
ISBN 978 1 55245 257 8  
EISBN 978 1 77056 311 7  
\$24.95 CDN | US



## Local Motion: The Art of Civic Engagement in Toronto

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Christina Palassio and  
Alana Wilcox

224 PGS • NOV 2010  
ISBN 978 1 55245 238 7  
\$22.95 CDN | \$20.95 US



## Five Good Ideas: Practical Strategies for Non-Profit Success

edited by Alan Broadbent  
and Ratna Omidvar

250 PGS • OCT 2011  
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\$23.95 CDN | \$21.95 US



## The Shimmering Beast

by Steve Reinke

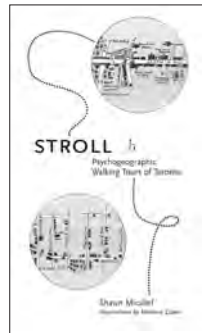
180 PGS • APRIL 2011  
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## Stroll: Psychogeographic Walking Tours of Toronto

by Shawn Micallef  
illustrations by Marlena Zuber  
winner of a Heritage Toronto Award

312 PGS • MAY 2010  
ISBN 978 1 55245 226 4  
EISBN 978 1 77056 261 5  
\$24.95 CDN | \$22.95 US



## The Edible City: Toronto's Food from Farm to Fork

edited by Christina Palassio  
and Alana Wilcox

312 PGS • NOV 2009  
ISBN 978 1 55245 219 6  
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## Occasional Work and Seven Walks from the Office for Soft Architecture

by Lisa Robertson

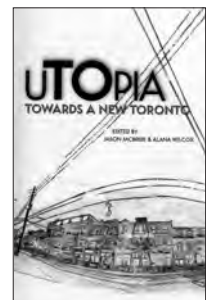
240 PGS • NOV 2010  
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## uTOpia: Towards a New Toronto

edited by Alana Wilcox  
and Jason McBride  
shortlisted for the Toronto Book Award

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# Selected Backlist Fiction



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## Mad Hope

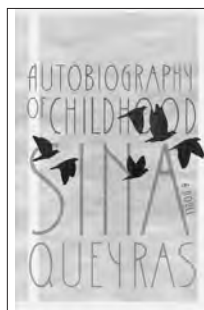
short fiction by Heather Birrell

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EISBN 978 1 77056 315 5

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## Autobiography of Childhood

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First Novel Award

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## Eye Lake

a novel by Tristan Hughes

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EISBN 978 1 77056 293 6

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a novel by Rob Benvie

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shortlisted for the Ferro-Grumley

Award and an Alberta Literary Award

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\$20.95 CDN | \$18.95 US



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a novel by Maggie Helwig

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named 2012's One Book Toronto title

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Winnipeg Book Award  
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\$27.95 CDN | \$27.95 US



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a play by Linda Griffiths  
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ISBN 978 1 55245 190 8  
EISBN 978 1 77056 007 9  
\$17.95 CDN | \$13.95 US



### Minor Complications

two plays by Brendan Gall  
shortlisted for the Governor  
General's Award for Drama  
152 PGS • NOV 2010  
ISBN 978 1 55245 237 0  
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### Social Acupuncture: A Guide to Suicide, Performance and Utopia

by Darren O'Donnell  
160 PGS • APRIL 2006  
ISBN 978 1 55245 170 0  
EISBN 978 1 77056 208 0  
\$17.95 CDN | \$13.95 US



### Eternal Hydra

a play by Anton Piatagorsky  
112 PGS • MAY 2009  
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EISBN 978 1 77056 046 8  
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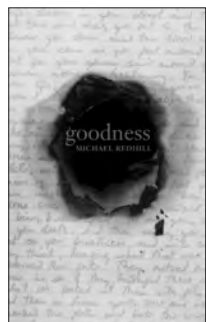
### The Pochsy Plays

three plays by Karen Hines  
shortlisted for the Governor  
General's Award for Drama  
220 PGS • MAY 2004  
ISBN 978 1 55245 134 2  
EISBN 978 1 77056 172 4  
\$18.95 CDN | \$14.95 US



### Goodness

a play by Michael Redhill  
winner of the Best of Edinburgh  
Fringe Prize  
112 PGS • NOV 2005  
ISBN 978 1 55245 163 2  
EISBN 978 1 77056 082 6  
\$16.95 CDN | \$13.95 US



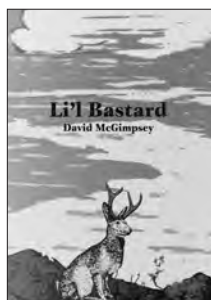
# Selected Backlist Poetry



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poetry by Susan Steudel  
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\$17.95 CDN | \$15.95 US



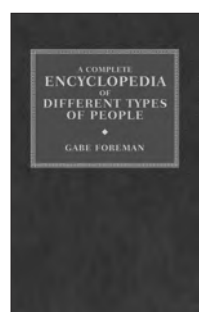
**Li'l Bastard**  
poetry by David McGimpsey  
named one of *Quill & Quire's*  
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winner of the A. M. Klein Prize  
for Poetry  
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Write Poetry**  
poetry by Jones  
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# Selected Backlist Poetry

## The Porcupinity of the Stars

poetry by Gary Barwin  
winner of the Hamilton Literary  
Award for Poetry

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EISBN 978 1 77056 273 8  
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poetry by Jonathan Ball  
shortlisted for the Lansdowne  
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ISBN 978 1 55245 236 3  
EISBN 978 1 77056 275 2  
\$16.95 CDN | \$14.95 US



## Eunoia: The Upgraded Edition

poetry by Christian Bök  
winner of the Griffin Poetry Prize

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ISBN 978 1 55245 225 7  
EISBN 978 1 77056 259 2  
\$16.95 CDN | \$14.95 US



## Lisa Robertson's Magenta Soul Whip

poetry by Lisa Robertson  
one of the *New York Times*  
100 Notable Books of 2010  
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ISBN 978 1 55245 215 8  
EISBN 978 1 77056 133 5  
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## Neighbour Procedure

poetry by Rachel Zolf

96 PGS • APRIL 2010  
ISBN 978 1 55245 229 5  
EISBN 978 1 77056 267 7  
\$16.95 CDN | \$14.95 US



## Crabwise to the Hounds

poetry by Jeramy Dodds  
shortlisted for the Griffin Poetry Prize,  
winner of the Trillium Prize for Poetry

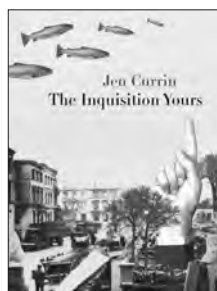
80 PGS • OCT 2008  
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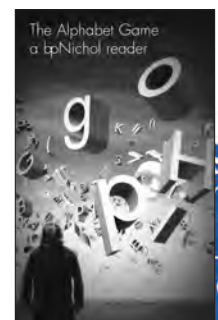
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