



Coach House Books | Spring 2010

## **We're nuts about Coach House!**

Our cover models, Mr. and Mrs. Roderick Sciurus, are simply nuts about Coach House – squirrely, even. And they cordially invite you to peruse our publishing house's latest literary wares. So, please, don't disappoint the Sciuri ...

The fall had us scurrying around, publishing books for readers to store over the winter. Titles like Cordelia Strube's novel *Lemon* (rodents need vitamin C, too) and David Derry's sharply comic *Sentimental Exorcisms*. Mrs. Sciurus was particularly fond of *Prismatic Publics: Innovative Canadian Women's Poetry and Poetics*, and Mr. Sciurus (a Sunday crossword puzzler) was enraptured with *Eunoia: The Upgraded Edition*. And being verse-lovin' vermin, they rekindled their romance with Susan Holbrook's *Joy Is So Exhausting* and Kate Hall's *The Certainty Dream*. It goes without saying that the fuzzy couple loved *The Edible City: Toronto's Food from Farm to Fork*: to them, the city has always been edible.

Autumn also brought Coach House a few nice chestnuts of acclaim – our books were shortlisted for the Governor General's Award for Poetry, the Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize, the Toronto Book Award and the Amazon.ca First Novel Award. And Michael Blouin's debut novel, *Chase e' Haven*, won a ReLit Award!

We're coming out of hibernation bright-eyed and bushy-tailed. You'll go nutty for Thom Vernon's novel *The Drifts* and Alan Reed's *Isobel and Emile*. Our new poetry collections – Rachel Zolf's *Neighbour Procedure*, Jen Currin's *The Inquisition Yours* and Kevin McPherson Eckhoff's *Rhapsodomancy* – will have you chirping from the treetops. And Shawn Micallef's collection of psychogeographic walking tours of Toronto, *Stroll*, will have you scampering to your local bookstore.

Mr. and Mrs. Sciurus will hope you gather these spring titles like acorns. Don't paws – pick up a Coach House book today!

## **Coach House Books**

Publisher: Stan Bevington  
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Cover illustration [*Squirrel* and *Squirrel Lady*, ink on paper, 2009, 8 x 10 in. each]  
by Ryan Berkley

## Stroll: Psychogeographic Walking Tours of Toronto

by Shawn Micallef

illustrations by Marlena Zuber

What is the ‘Toronto look’? Toronto architecture is rich with superlative facts – ‘tallest’ this, ‘first retractable’ that – but, taken as a whole, the city’s built environment is underappreciated. Glass skyscrapers rise beside Victorian homes, and Brutalist apartment buildings often mark the edge of leafy ravines, creating a city of contrasts whose architectural look can only be defined by telling the story of how it came together and how it works, today, as an imperfect machine.

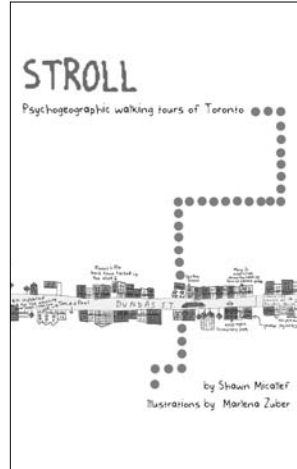
*Eye Weekly* columnist Shawn Micallef has been examining Toronto’s architecture for many years, weaving historical information on its buildings and their architects with expansive ambulatory narratives about the neighbourhoods in which these buildings exist. *Stroll* collects Micallef’s expanded columns alongside a number of new, unpublished essays; together, these psychogeographic reportages situate Toronto’s buildings in living, breathing detail, and tell us more about the people who use them, how it feels to be exploring them in the middle of the night and the unintended ways in which they’re evolving.

Writer Rebecca Solnit said that ‘cities move at the speed of walking.’ *Stroll* celebrates Toronto’s details – some subtle, others grand – at that velocity and, in so doing, helps us understand what impact its many buildings, from the CN Tower to Pearson Airport’s Terminal One and New City Hall, have on those who live there.

*Stroll* features dozens of hand-drawn maps by Marlena Zuber that encourage strollers to follow the walks, a foreword by architecture critic John Bentley Mays, a flâneur manifesto and a four-panel fold-out colour map.

*Stroll* is co-published with *Eye Weekly*.

SHAWN MICALLEF is a senior editor at *Spacing* magazine, *Eye Weekly* columnist and co-founder of [murmur], the location-based mobile-phone documentary project (installed in 22 cities internationally). He writes about cities, culture, buildings, art and whatever is interesting in books, blogs, magazines and newspapers.



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- promotional walking tour pamphlets
- Toronto book launch
- extensive ad campaign:  
*Spacing*, *Eye Weekly*,  
*Torontoist*, *blogTO*
- online interactive map



## The Drifts

a novel by Thom Vernon

Night is falling, and so is the snow. As a blizzard buries the ground, it uncovers the resentments, hopes and aches of a small town in northeastern Arkansas, where, like in any Southern small town, there are unwanted pregnancies to agonize over, surgeries to be paid for and love to be made.

Julie's two daughters have just run off to Hollywood to get famous when she finds herself, at forty-six, unexpectedly expectant. She's not sure she can stand to be a mother again. And her husband, Charlie, won't come home to talk it over with her.

Charlie wants another child more than anything, but he doesn't know how to deal with Julie. His affair with Wilson, his best friend, is over, but he's found a different and unusual kind of intimacy – with a calf.

Wilson works in the Singer factory that keeps the town alive. She's not in love with Charlie, though; she loves Dol.

Dol is a transsexual, a divorced father of two children, who can't afford the transition that would make his body make sense – although the doctor visiting from Atlanta might change that.

Their very different voices converge as the blizzard gathers force, their stories violently mapping in the snow the ways that memory, gender and history carve themselves upon our bodies. *The Drifts* is dexterously told, a cacophony of four affecting voices melding into one exquisite chord.

Praise for Thom Vernon:

'A real gasser. Very good, very good.' – Hubert Selby, Jr.

THOM VERNON has worked in film, television and theatre since 1989, including appearances on *Seinfeld*, *General Hospital* and *The Fugitive*. He has been the Actors' Gang Youth Education Program director, and has worked extensively with at-risk people, including as an arts educator at the Lorraine Kimsa Theatre for Young People. His screenplays and fiction have placed in various competitions, including Paramount's Chesterfield Writer's Film Project and the Open Door Contest. He hails from Michigan, but he and his partner live in exile in Toronto. This is his first novel.



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*Books For Everybody*, *Geist*,  
*Broken Pencil*, *Matrix*



## Isobel and Emile

a novel by Alan Reed

This is the story of Isobel and Emile.

They wake up beside each other one morning and they slowly get out of bed. It is the last time that they will sleep together. They do not want it to be the last time but they know that it is.

They get out of bed and they go to a train station. Emile gets onto a train. Isobel does not.

She stands on the platform and she watches him go. He is going to the city, where he will go back to his life as an artist. He will make puppets and struggle to say something with them that he does not have the words for. She will stay in this town, in the spare room over the grocery store where Emile lived. She will work in the store and write letters to Emile while she works up the courage to do something more.

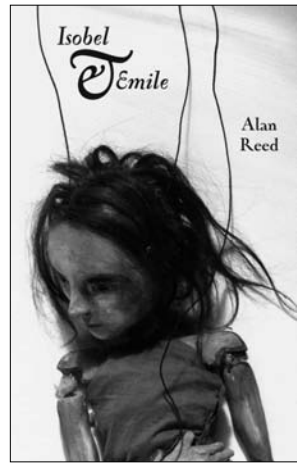
Told in a minimalist voice that is both stark and hypnotic, *Isobel and Emile* is the story of two lovers without each other. It is a story of struggling with loss and a loneliness that threatens to consume them. It is about staying true to what they hold dear, no matter that it is hopeless and that nothing will ever come of it, because sometimes that is all that is left.

And sometimes it is enough.

Praise for *Isobel and Emile*:

‘As I read it, I thought I was naked to the waist and a cool wind was blowing over my back.’ – E. D. Blodgett

ALAN REED studied semiotics at the University of Toronto and writing at Dartington College of Arts (in the U.K.). He is the author of a collection of poems, *For Love of the City* (BuschekBooks), and two plays. Since 2005, he has been working as an experimental writer, making things that sit somewhere between writing, installation and performance art. This is his first novel. He lives in Montreal.



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*Montreal Review of Books*



## Neighbour Procedure

poetry by Rachel Zolf

Rachel Zolf's powerful follow-up to the Trillium Award-winning *Human Resources* is a virtuoso polyvocal correspondence with the daily news, ancient scripture and contemporary theory that puts the ongoing conflict in Israel/Palestine firmly in the crosshairs. Plucked from a minefield of competing knowledges, media and public texts, *Neighbour Procedure* sees Zolf assemble an arsenal of poetic procedures and words borrowed from a cast of unlikely neighbours, including Mark Twain, Dadaist Marcel Janco, blogger-poet Ron Silliman and two women at the gym. The result is a dynamic constellation where humour and horror sit poised at the threshold of ethics and politics.

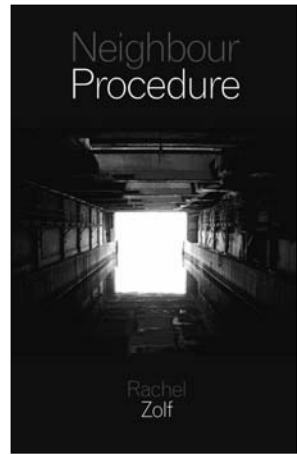
Praise for *Neighbour Procedure*:

'This is an extraordinary collection of poems ... There is mourning, rage and some brave and difficult effort here to speak across traditions, languages, to avow loss, to expose the colder rationalities of occupation and war, and a linguistic fathoming of the ethics of proximity ... This is courageous and moving work that feels like the struggle of a lifetime condensed into potent lines.' – Judith Butler

'*Neighbour Procedure* is the most realized conceptual-modular book of political poetry I've read to date; Zolf's language-motion escapes several nation-states' culture capture zones while re-threading the very notion of "self"-representational purposivity.' – Rodrigo Toscano

'This book is a sharp, painful cry against the tyranny of the monologic.' – Charles Bernstein

RACHEL ZOLF is a poet and editor from Toronto who is presently living in New York. *Human Resources* (p. 17) won the 2008 Trillium Book Award for Poetry and was shortlisted for a Lambda Award. Previous collections include *Shoot & Weep* (Nomados), *from Human Resources* (Belladonna books), *Masque* (The Mercury Press) and *Her absence, this wanderer* (BuschekBooks).



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*Broken Pencil*, *Chicago Review*



## The Inquisition Yours

poetry by Jen Currin

In her ambitious follow-up to *Hagiography*, acclaimed poet Jen Currin continues her unique exploration of the surrealist lyric. In voices alternately vulnerable, defiant, resigned and hopeful, *The Inquisition Yours* speaks to the atrocities of our time – war, environmental destruction and the erosion of personal rights – fashioning a tenuous bridge between the political and the personal. Trying to make sense of a world where even language is ‘a danger,’ Currin’s poems reject the dominant storylines in favour of a vigilant awareness. Even as they question how to ‘change the feared penmanship,’ these poems glimmer with moments of utopian possibility.



Praise for *The Sleep of Four Cities*:

“My mask hangs by a threat,” writes Jen Currin, and indeed an air of menace suffuses these brilliantly erotic and dangerous poems. Currin is a startling new talent who bears watching.’ – John Ashbery

Praise for *Hagiography*:

‘The poems are meant to disrupt our sense of reality, but the novelty of strangeness alone isn’t what gives Currin’s work its power. Her images are most memorable when they are emotionally evocative ... [*Hagiography* is] vivid and poignantly true to life.’

– *Toronto Star*

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JEN CURRIN was born and raised in Portland, Oregon, and did her schooling at Bard College (BA) and Arizona State University (MFA). She has published two collections of poetry, *The Sleep of Four Cities* (Anvil Press) and *Hagiography* (p. 17). She currently lives in Vancouver, where she teaches creative and academic writing.



## Rhapsodomancy

visual poetry by kevin mcpherson eckhoff

Reading is slow, and writing is slower. Words are old-fashioned. Why not consider the communication of the future? In 1837, Sir Isaac Pitman began a sixty-year obsession with producing a system of Shorthand that accurately and swiftly captures voice as evidence of the mind's movements. Then, in the 1950s, John Malone developed Unifon, a forty-character phonetic alphabet intended for international communication by the airline industry. Both projects reached for artful utility and both have largely been forgotten.

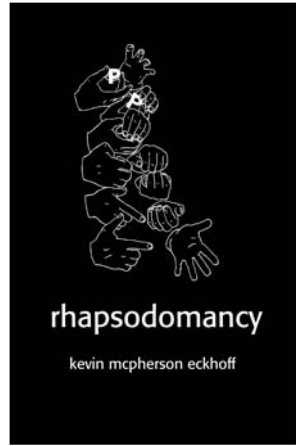
In *Rhapsodomancy*, kevin mcpherson eckhoff remembers them. Exploring these two phonic alphabets as image, these poems playfully test the relationship between voice and visual poetry. Can pictures represent breath? Can unutterable writing express thought? Mcpherson eckhoff offers an imaginative response to such questions via empty suits reciting onomatopoeia, letters defying the laws of reality, and drawings divining the future.

Praise for *Rhapsodomancy*:

'In *Rhapsodomancy*, kevin mcpherson eckhoff uncovers a world of signs, images and marks that make meaning, that divulge sense, that reveal even as they obscure. His is a visual poetry at the edge of the textual and fully visual, resplendent with fragmentary bits of language and formal games filled with humour. We learn from this book that what we lack in writing we can make up for with divination. We learn of the continuing power of the textual and its steady descent into silence. We learn that play is the deepest form of learning.'

– Geof Huth, author of *Out of Character*

KEVIN MCPHERSON ECKHOFF'S visual poetry has appeared in the anthology *Boredom Fighters* (Tightrope Books) and in such magazines as *dandelion* and *filling Station*. A winner of the Shaunt Basmajian Chapbook Award, he studied English literature at the University of Calgary. He recently traded his life for a house in Armstrong, British Columbia, and a job teaching literature at Okanagan College.



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

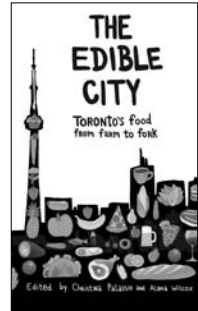
edited by Christina Palassio and Alana Wilcox

Victory gardens. Bread wars. The architecture of restaurants. Migrant workers. Cocktails and craft beer. Food miles. Community gardens. Trussing. *How does Toronto feed itself?*

With a cornucopia of essays on comestibles, *The Edible City* considers how one city eats. It includes dishes on peaches and poverty, on processing plants and public gardens, on rats and bees and bad restaurant service, on schnitzel and school lunches. There are incisive studies of food-security policy, of feeding the needy, and of waste, and a very happy tale about a hardy fig tree.

Together they form a saucy picture of how Toronto sustains itself, from growing basil on balconies to four-star restaurants. Dig into *The Edible City* and get the whole enchilada.

URBAN STUDIES • 312 PGS • NOV 2009 • ISBN 978 1 55245 219 6 • \$24.95 CDN \$22.95 US



## H<sub>2</sub>O: Toronto's Water from Lake Iroquois to Lost Rivers to Low-flow Toilets

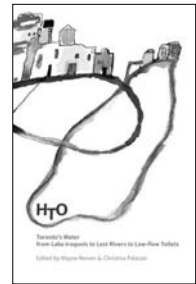
edited by Wayne Reeves and Christina Palassio

NOMINATED FOR A 2009 HERITAGE TORONTO AWARD

Toronto is a city dominated by water. In *H<sub>2</sub>O*, 34 contributors examine the ever-changing interplay between nature and culture, and call into question the city's past, present and future engagement with water.

Explore everything from waste disposal, waterfront reclamation, Hurricane Hazel, the psychogeography of High Level Pumping Station, the city's Wet Weather Flow Management Master Plan and the history of Taddle Creek, and infiltrate the city's storm sewers in a beautiful colour insert.

URBAN STUDIES • 328 PGS • NOV 2008 • ISBN 978 1 55245 208 0 • \$24.95 CDN \$22.95 US



## GreenTOpia: Towards a Sustainable Toronto

edited by Alana Wilcox, Christina Palassio and Jonny Dovercourt

More trees. Hydrogen-fuelled cabs. Urbiology. Solar panels on big-box stores. The art of salvage. Retrofitting our urban slabs. Gardening the Gardiner. *What would make Toronto a greener place?*

In the third volume in the uTOpia series, dozens of Torontonians think big and small about sustainability. From suggestions for changes to our transit system to a tongue-in-cheek proposal for a painted line around the city, *GreenTOpia* challenges the city and its residents to rethink what it means to be green. Includes photos, maps and a 56-page green directory.

URBAN STUDIES • 256 PGS • NOV 2007 • ISBN 978 1 55245 194 6 • \$24.95 CDN \$18.95 US



## The State of the Arts: Living with Culture in Toronto

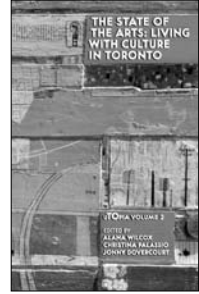
edited by Alana Wilcox, Christina Palassio and Jonny Dovercourt

Freakier rich people. More suburban art. A venue for new music. Better staplers. An infrastructure for hip-hop. Affordable live-work spaces. Laneway art. *What would make Toronto a better place for the arts?*

*The State of the Arts* explores the Toronto arts scene from a variety of angles. The essays consider everything from the CNE to unintentional art, from Toronto on film to culturesheds and the fine line between party and art. Includes a 16-page colour section of Toronto photobloggers' works.

'The second volume in the uTOpia series,' says *NOW Magazine*, 'is rich in ideas and energy ... the collection really rocks.'

URBAN STUDIES • 352 PGS • NOV 2006 • ISBN 978 1 55245 178 6 • \$24.95 CDN \$18.95 US



## uTOpia: Towards a New Toronto

edited by Jason McBride and Alana Wilcox

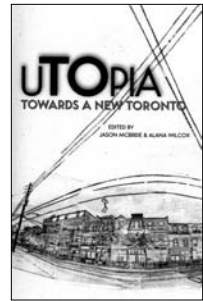
SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2006 TORONTO BOOK AWARD

A better TTC. Letting kids vote. A network of cycling tubes. A car-free Kensington Market. A roller coaster to the Islands. Making our own mythology. Guerrilla gardening. *How would you improve Toronto?*

The book that started it all, *uTOpia* asks 34 Torontonians how they would improve Toronto, with answers from the very practical to the pie-in-the-sky. Includes two fold-out colour maps.

'One of the most surprising Toronto books ever ... *uTOpia: Towards a New Toronto* ... delivers a fresh and energizing view of Toronto's possibilities.' – Robert Fulford, *National Post*

URBAN STUDIES • 288 PGS • NOV 2005 • ISBN 978 1 55245 156 4 • \$24.95 CDN \$18.95 US



## East/West: A Guide to Where People Live in Downtown Toronto

by Mark Fram, Michael McClelland and Nancy Byrtus

*East/West* is a guided tour of old stories and fresh perspectives on the architecture and planning of urban development in central Toronto – including both success stories and perennial problems.

*East/West* is not your average city guide. It'll take you down alleyways you've never heard of, show you buildings you've never seen, offer you that bit of history you've never been able to access. It tells you how Toronto has tried to house the homeless over the years, how the waterfront evolved (or devolved) and how the character of different neighbourhoods has changed. It's the Toronto you only thought you knew.

Specially prepared maps, over 120 photos and scores of essays cover more than a hundred sites, neighbourhoods and current issues. The editors are practising professionals in architecture, planning and historic preservation in Canada.

URBAN STUDIES • 178 PGS • NOV 2003 • ISBN 978 1 55245 065 9 • \$18.95 CDN \$16.95 US



## Saudade: The Possibilities of Place

travel essays by Anik See

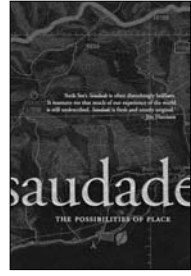
WINNER OF A 2009 ALCUIN AWARD FOR BOOK DESIGN

In its simplest sense, the Portuguese word *saudade* describes a feeling of longing for something that is now gone, that in all likelihood can never be recaptured. In *Saudade*, traveller Anik See traces her attempts to reclaim this loss in a series of informal essays that take us from the salt plains of Wood Buffalo National Park to the fishing ports of Sri Lanka and the rough roads of Tbilisi, Georgia.

Whether at a fish fry in the Northwest Territories, at the post-9/11 Canada–u.s. border, on the ultimate road trip through Australia or at a summer carnival in Santiago de Cuba, See is on a continual quest for simplicity.

‘Impeccably written, carefully observed and vividly detailed ... A mesmerizing read,’ says *Outpost* magazine.

TRAVEL • 200 PGS • OCT 2008 • ISBN 978 1 55245 207 3 • \$18.95 CDN \$16.95 US



## Concrete Toronto: A Guidebook to Concrete Architecture from the Fifties to the Seventies

edited by Michael McClelland and Graeme Stewart

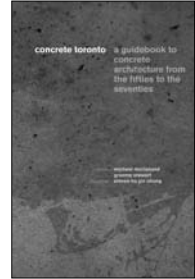
WINNER OF A 2008 HERITAGE TORONTO AWARD AND

A 2008 DESIGN EXCHANGE AWARD

Underappreciated and misunderstood, the more than fifty concrete projects considered in *Concrete Toronto* represent an exciting era of cultural investment and design innovation. A product of Canada coming into its own culturally, economically and artistically, Toronto’s modern concrete heritage is a testament to Canadian optimism and nation-building following World War II. The book includes insights from many of the original architects, local practitioners, city planners, university faculty, historians and journalists.

‘*Concrete Toronto* is a bold celebration of the city’s best structures, part guide book, part historical document,’ crowns *Wallpaper*\*.

ARCHITECTURE • 360 PGS • NOV 2007 • ISBN 978 1 55245 193 9 • \$29.95 CDN \$24.95 US



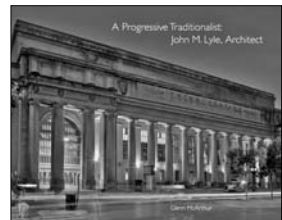
## A Progressive Traditionalist: John M. Lyle, Architect

by Glenn McArthur

The architect behind Toronto’s Royal Alexandra Theatre and Union Station, John M. Lyle was an anomaly among architects: a Beaux-Arts classicist who found much inspiration in modernism, allowing his own traditionalist practice to be affected in form and detail by a brave new emphasis on minimalism and indigenous influence. *A Progressive Traditionalist* traces Lyle’s aesthetic trajectory, documenting his training at Yale and in Paris, his early career in New York and his later success in attempting to develop a uniquely Canadian architectural style in Toronto, including countless legendary banks and residences and the iconic Union Station.

‘Well-researched and graphically elegant ... McArthur’s new book will certainly prove to be an important contribution to the continuing discourse on the seminal figures in Canadian architecture,’ notes *Canadian Architecture*.

ARCHITECTURE • 220 PGS • APR 2009 • ISBN 978 1 55245 218 9 • \$45 CDN / US



## Lemon

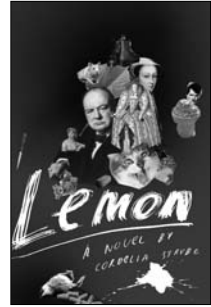
a novel by Cordelia Strube

The numbers are against Lemon: three mothers, one deadbeat dad, one cancer-riddled protégé, two friends, one tree-hugging stepbrother and a 60 percent average.

So she just can't be bothered trying to fit in. She doesn't care about fashion or television or the mall – she'd rather read Dickens, Tolstoy, the Brontës and even Jane Austen, though she's a wimp. Meanwhile, the adults in her life are all mired in self-centredness, and the other kids are getting high, beating each other up in parks, and trying to outsex one another. High school is misery, a trial run for an unhappy adulthood, and nothing guidance counsellor Blecher can say will convince Lemon otherwise.

'Strube proves that striking intelligence comes from the mouths of babes; gems of wisdom litter each page,' praises *The Walrus*.

FICTION • 280 PGS • OCT 2009 • ISBN 978 1 55245 220 2 • \$19.95 CDN \$17.95 US



## Sentimental Exorcisms

short fiction by David Derry

The return of a former lover saps a retired librarian's faith in punctuation; a judge must compulsively narrate his neighbour into ignominy; and the glories of market analysis prove as deceptive as human connection when Trevor Spates' visit to a stripper goes awry. Meanwhile, poor Tim Pine must face his coprophobia in a most public and lamentable office misadventure.

*Sentimental Exorcisms* is a collection of tragicomic satire, latter-day-Victorian collisions of Nabokov and Proust. The men in these long short stories have grand designs and petty fears, or modest designs and grand fears. With their ramparts crumbling around them, each mounts an exuberant defence in a vacuum of self-absorption.

FICTION • 192 PGS • OCT 2009 • ISBN 978 1 55245 224 0 • \$18.95 CDN \$16.95 US



## Amphibian

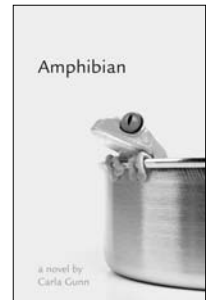
a novel by Carla Gunn

Nine-year-old Phineas William Walsh has an encyclopedic knowledge of the natural world. What he can't understand is why his grandfather died, or why waste-of-flesh Lyle always picks on him. Or why his parents can't live together – after all, when other mate-for-life animals have a fight, it's not like one of them just packs his bags and leaves the country.

To make it to-infinity worse, he's worried sick about what humans are doing to the planet, and his mother is worried sick about him. But shouldn't everyone be losing sleep over the fact that a quarter of all earth's mammals are on the Red List of Threatened Species? So, when a White's tree frog ends up in his fourth-grade classroom aquarium, Phin and his best friend, Bird, are spurred to action.

'*Amphibian* is a sweet and smart book for optimists of any age, and Phin the perfect eco hero for intelligent readers everywhere,' says *NOW Magazine*.

FICTION • 216 PGS • APR 2009 • ISBN 978 1 55245 214 1 • \$19.95 CDN \$17.95 US



## Fences in Breathing

a novel by Nicole Brossard, trans. by Susanne de Lotbinière-Harwood

SHORTLISTED FOR THE ROGERS WRITERS' TRUST FICTION PRIZE

Invited to a quiet Swiss château by the enigmatic Tatiana Beaujeu Lehmann, Anne begins to slowly write a novel in a language that is not hers, a language that makes meaning foreign and keeps her alert to the world and its fiery horizon.

Will the strange intoxication that takes hold of her and her characters – sculptor Charles; his sister Kim, about to leave for the Arctic; and Laure Ravin, a lawyer obsessed with the Patriot Act – allow her to break through the darkness of the world? First published in French as *La Capture du sombre*, the newest novel from Nicole Brossard is a disquieting, dexterous and defiant missive.

'Suggestive without being overt, and playful without seeming clever; it's the perfect translation of an elegant, complicated book,' says the *Globe and Mail*.

FICTION • 120 PGS • APR 2009 • ISBN 978 1 55245 213 4 • \$18.95 CDN \$16.95 US



## Girls Fall Down

a novel by Maggie Helwig

SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2009 TORONTO BOOK AWARD

A girl faints in the Toronto subway. Her friends are taken to the hospital with unexplained rashes; they complain about a funny smell in the subway. Swarms of police arrive, and then the hazmat team. Panic ripples through the city and words like *poisoning* and *terrorism* become airborne.

Alex, a hospital photographer whose sight is failing, witnessed the first incident. As he rushes to capture his vision of Toronto on film, he encounters an old girlfriend, Susie-Paul, who is experiencing her own crisis: her schizophrenic brother is missing, and the Toronto streets are more hostile than ever.

NOW says, 'All hail Helwig ... *Girls Fall Down* riffs on themes of terrorism and disease in the city, and the result is soulful, disturbing and exhilarating at the same time.'

FICTION • 272 PGS • APR 2008 • ISBN 978 1 55245 196 0 • \$20.95 CDN \$18.95 US



## Chase and Haven

a novel by Michael Blouin

WINNER OF THE 2009 RELIT AWARD

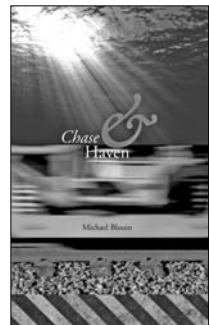
SHORTLISTED FOR THE AMAZON.CA FIRST NOVEL AWARD

Haven is fiercely protective of her little brother, Chase, spirited him away when their father's temper is about to flare again. But when that's no longer enough to keep him safe, Haven steals the family car, whose dashboard she can barely see over, and pilots them away to their aunt, who takes them in. But a childhood so harrowing is impossible to forget.

*Chase and Haven* is a haunting story – inventively told and deeply felt – made of thousands of small impressionist facets that refract the quiet spectrum of the beauty and detritus of two entwined lives.

The *National Post* says, 'Each recollection [is] revealed in the author's beautifully lean and powerful voice ... Buy it.'

FICTION • 200 PGS • OCT 2008 • ISBN 978 1 55245 203 5 • \$19.95 CDN \$17.95 US



## Stunt

a novel by Claudia Dey

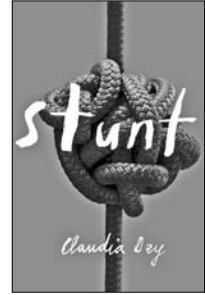
ONE OF THE *GLOBE AND MAIL*'S 100 BEST BOOKS OF 2008  
SHORTLISTED FOR THE AMAZON.CA FIRST NOVEL AWARD

Eugenia 'Stunt' Ledoux, nine years old, wakes to a goodbye note from her father, Sheb, and is devastated. When her mother, Mink, vanishes too, Eugenia and her sister, Immaculata, double in age overnight. She devotes herself to finding Sheb and begins writing to the man she believes to be Sheb's father: I. I. Finbar Me The Three, a retired tightrope walker, and sets off to look for him.

Studded with postcards from outer space, twins, levitation, the explosion of a shoulder-pad factory and some accomplished taxidermy, *Stunt* is part dirge, part cowboy poetry and part love letter to the wilder corners of Toronto, and of ourselves.

The *Globe and Mail* raves, 'You want to read this novel carefully; you want to read it again ... At once hypnotic and dazzling, *Stunt* is, quite simply, a feat.'

FICTION • 248 PGS • APR 2008 • ISBN 978 1 55245 195 3 • \$19.95 CDN \$17.95 US



## The Steve Machine

a novel by Mike Hoolboom

SHORTLISTED FOR A LAMBDA LITERARY AWARD

When Auden learns he's HIV-positive, he heads for Toronto, leaving behind Sudbury and his old personality. An orgy or two later, he meets Steve Reinke, an artist whose videos cure migraines or allow viewers to see five seconds into the future. Steve's hypnotic voice is also the voice inside Auden's head, the one he hears while reading books. Auden takes notes as Steve relives his past loves, meets Yoko Ono and stars in a reality tv show in the process, helping them to build a machine in the form of a book, a machine that will allow the reader to construct an entirely new personality, a machine that will make Auden healthy again. *The Steve Machine*.

*The Walrus* says, 'It skews reality and fantasy, memory and desire, to create an intuitive hybrid in which art transcends individual identity.'

FICTION • 176 PGS • OCT 2008 • ISBN 978 1 55245 202 8 • \$19.95 CDN \$17.95 US



## The Mitochondrial Curiosities of Marcells 1 to 19

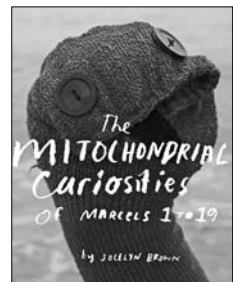
a young adult novel by Jocelyn Brown

Dree is eagerly awaiting the special fund her father promised for her fifteenth birthday to help send her to Toronto's Renegade Craft Fair. But her dad has a fatal heart attack, and instead all she finds are clues that lead to the ominous Alberta Psychiatric Hospital where her parents once worked.

Along the way: two fires, one family scandal, nineteen sassy sock creatures named Marcel, one new friend, one step-mother who's maybe sympathetic after all and the infinite, unceasing misery of school. Follow Dree as she tries to unearth a mystery, and to get a passing mark in biology.

'Jocelyn Brown transcends the genre with a novel of depth and texture, rich with incident and very contemporary dialogue,' raves the *Globe and Mail*.

YA FICTION • 144 PGS • MAY 2009 • ISBN 978 1 55245 209 7 • \$13.95 CDN / US



## Twenty Miles

a novel by Cara Hedley

SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2008 MARGARET LAURENCE AWARD  
 'Hedley writes like a dream. This kind of language never gets applied to sport ... *Twenty Miles* scores a literary hat trick,' praises *NOW Magazine*.

FICTION • 208 PGS • OCT 2007 • ISBN 978 1 55245 186 1  
 \$19.95 CDN \$16.95 US

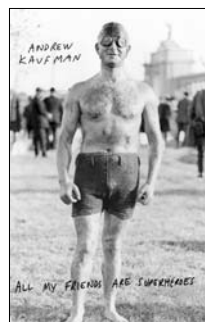


## All My Friends Are Superheroes

a novel by Andrew Kaufman

RIGHTS SOLD IN THE U.K., DENMARK, NORWAY, ITALY, FRANCE, GERMANY, SOUTH KOREA, TURKEY, SPAIN AND THE NETHERLANDS  
 'I expect this story will replace boxes of chocolates and flowers in courting rituals to come,' prophesies Sheila Heti.

FICTION • 112 PGS • OCT 2003 • ISBN 978 1 55245 130 4  
 \$16.95 CDN \$14.95 US

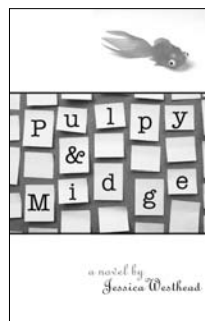


## Pulpy and Midge

a novel by Jessica Westhead

'Deftly written from start to finish, Westhead's comic tale ... skewers today's corporate office scene,' praises the *Kitchener-Waterloo Record*.

FICTION • 232 PGS • OCT 2007 • ISBN 978 1 55245 185 4  
 \$19.95 CDN \$16.95 US



## The Girls Who Saw Everything

a novel by Sean Dixon

RIGHTS SOLD IN THE U.S. & U.K.  
 ONE OF QUILL & QUIRE'S TEN BEST BOOKS OF 2007

'What makes Sean Dixon's first novel so electrifyingly smart and charming is its abundant passion,' says the *Georgia Straight*.

FICTION • 300 PGS • APR 2007 • ISBN 978 1 55245 184 7  
 \$21.95 CDN (NO US RIGHTS)

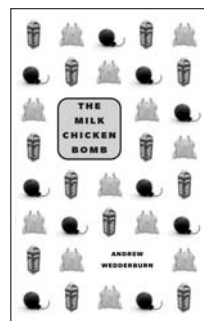


## The Milk Chicken Bomb

a novel by Andrew Wedderburn

SHORTLISTED FOR THE BOOKS IN CANADA/AMAZON.CA FIRST NOVEL AWARD, LONGLISTED FOR THE IMPAC DUBLIN AWARD  
 'A deceptively casual novel [that] closes with a heart-piercing bang,' says the *Globe and Mail*.

FICTION • 296 PGS • APR 2007 • ISBN 978 1 55245 180 9  
 \$21.95 CDN \$16.95 US



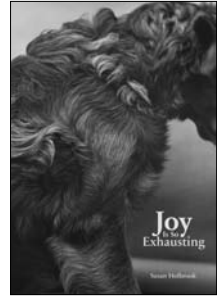
## Joy Is So Exhausting

poetry by Susan Holbrook

Joyfully melding knowing humour and torqued-up wordplay, Susan Holbrook's second collection is a comic fusion of the experimental and the experiential, the procedural and the lyric. Punch lines become sucker punches, line breaks slip into breakdowns, the serious plays comical and the comical turns deadly serious. Holbrook's poems don't use humour as much as they deconstruct the comic impulse, exposing its roots in the political, the psychological and the emotional life of the mind. Many of the poems import source texts from elsewhere – home inspection reports, tampon instructions, poems by Lorca – in a series of translations and transgressions that invite a more critical rapport with the written word.

The *Winnipeg Free Press* exclaims, 'Susan Holbrook is so hilarious! ... This is a seriously stellar collection.'

POETRY • 88 PGS • OCTOBER 2009 • ISBN 978 1 55245 222 6 • \$16.95 CDN \$14.95 US

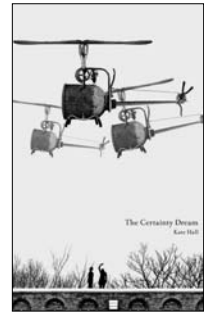


## The Certainty Dream

poetry by Kate Hall

Descartes asked, How can I know that I am not now dreaming? *The Certainty Dream* poses similar questions through poetry, but without the trappings of traditional philosophy. Kate Hall's bracingly immediate, insistently idiosyncratic debut collection lays bare the tricks and tools of her trade: a myna bird perches in poems but 'stands for nightingale'; the poet's antelope turns transparent; she dresses up her orange trees with bark and leaves. As the dream world and the waking world blur, the body and the dimensions it inhabits become a series of overlapping circles, all acting as containers for both knowledge and uncertainty. At times disarmingly plainspoken, at others, singing with lyric possibility, these poems make huge associative leaps. Taken together, they present the argument that to truly 'know' something, one must first recognize its traces in something else.

POETRY • 96 PGS • OCTOBER 2009 • ISBN 978 1 55245 223 3 • \$16.95 CDN \$14.95 US



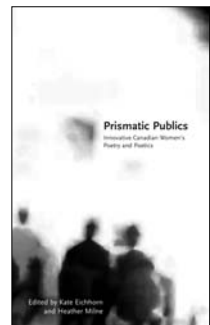
## Prismatic Publics: Innovative Canadian Women's Poetry and Poetics

edited by Kate Eichhorn and Heather Milne

Gathered in a single volume, these selections – some dating back to the early 1970s and others appearing in print for the first time – provide an opportunity to trace the diverse networks, influences, dialogues, dialectics and interventions that continue to make Canada's innovative women writers a powerful force in avant-garde writing around the world. Featuring work by Nicole Brossard, Margaret Christakos, Susan Holbrook, Dorothy Lusk, Karen Mac Cormack, Daphne Marlatt, Erin Moure, M. NourbeSe Philip, Sina Queyras, Lisa Robertson, Gail Scott, Nathalie Stephens, Catriona Strang, Rita Wong and Rachel Zolf.

'This is a brilliantly orchestrated, important anthology ... How stunning to see exemplified in every moment of writing an unsettling of outworn premises and a manifestation of new thought,' says Carla Harryman.

POETRY • 408 PGS • SEPT 2009 • ISBN 978 1 55245 221 9 • \$29.95 CDN \$27.95 US





## Eunoia: The Upgraded Edition

poetry by Christian Bök

WINNER OF THE 2002 GRIFFIN POETRY PRIZE

The word ‘eunoia,’ which literally means ‘beautiful thinking,’ is the shortest word in English that contains all five vowels. *Eunoia* is a five-chapter book in which each chapter is a univocal lipogram – the first chapter has A as its only vowel, the second chapter E, etc. Each vowel takes on a distinct personality: the I is egotistical and romantic, the O jocular and obscene, the E elegiac and epic (including a retelling of the Iliad!). Stunning in its implications and masterful in its execution, *Eunoia* has developed a cult following, garnering extensive praise and winning the Griffin Poetry Prize. The upgraded edition features a new cover, as well as several new poems by Bök.

‘Jaw-droppingly powerful, a mythology of sound,’ raves *Publishers Weekly*.

POETRY • 120 PGS • SEPT 2009 • ISBN 978 1 55245 255 7 • \$16.95 CDN \$14.95 US



## Expressway

poetry by Sina Queyras

SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2009 GOVERNOR GENERAL'S AWARD

Echoing the pastoral and elegiac modes of the Romantic poets, *Expressway* explores the infrastructures and means of modern mobility. Addressing the human project not so much as something imposed on nature but as an increasingly disturbing activity within it, it exposes the paradox of modern movement and connection: we build more and more roads and highways (concrete and fibre optic), but rather than feeling more connected – to the natural, to each other – the more disenfranchised and anxious we seem to become. Queyras has written a bravely lyrical critique of our ethical and ecological imprint, a legacy easily blamed on corporations and commerce, but one we've allowed to overwhelm us.

‘*Expressway* is a cry of outrage, but one that is cunning and savvy ... Queyras conveys righteous anger with flair,’ praises *Quill e' Quire*.

POETRY • 104 PGS • MARCH 2009 • ISBN 978 1 55245 216 5 • \$16.95 CDN \$14.95 US



## Lisa Robertson's Magenta Soul Whip

poetry by Lisa Robertson

Lisa Robertson's poems both court and cuckold subjectivity by unmasking its fundament of sex and hesitancy, the coil of doubt in its certitude. Reading her laments and utopias, we realize that, in any *she* and a *she's* assumption of thinking, language – whip-like – casts ahead of itself a fortuitous form. The form brims here pleurably with dogs, movie stars, broths, painting's detritus, Latin and pillage. Erudite and startling, the poems in *Lisa Robertson's Magenta Soul Whip*, occasional and previously uncollected works written over the past fifteen years, turn vestige into architecture, chagrin into resplendence. In them, we recognize our grand, saddened century.

*Rain Taxi* states, ‘Few poets are as precise, sharp, profound ... open and suggestive rather than preachy or didactic, modest but also far-reaching and unreserved.’

POETRY • 104 PGS • MARCH 2009 • ISBN 978 1 55245 215 8 • \$16.95 CDN \$14.95 US



## Crabwise to the Hounds

poetry by Jeramy Dodds

WINNER OF THE 2009 TRILLIUM BOOK AWARD FOR POETRY

SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2009 GRIFFIN POETRY PRIZE

With cameos by jackalopes, Glenn Gould, homemade spaceships and Carl Linnaeus, these poems are astonishing for their technical agility and their restless inventiveness. Humorous at times, yet always handled with consummate craft, these poems invoke historical figures like Hiram Bingham and Ho Chi Minh even as they traverse a poetic landscape that includes telephone-game-style translations, interpretive-dance poems on historic paintings and carnivalesque jaunts into a natural world overrun with mules, Alsatians, lions and motorcycle-sized deer.

'*Crabwise to the Hounds* is akin to having your room lit up by sheet lightning,' raves the *Toronto Star*. 'What a sensational show it is.'

POETRY • 72 PGS • OCT 2008 • ISBN 978 1 55245 205 9 • \$16.95 CDN \$14.95 US



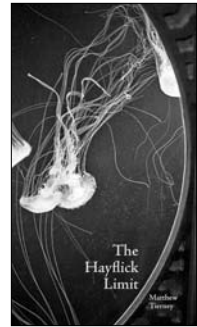
## The Hayflick Limit

poetry by Matthew Tierney

Shifting focus from the limits of the telescope to the limits of the microscope, the poems in *The Hayflick Limit* place a premium on inventiveness while embracing extremes of fear, pain, cognition and time. With demotic verve and a humming line, Tierney gives voice to a range of characters who scrape out meaning in a carnivalesque universe that has birthed black holes and Warner Bros. cartoons, murky market economies, murkier quantum laws, Vincent Price, Molotov cocktails, seedless grapes, Area 51 and competing Theories of Everything.

'Matthew Tierney's *The Hayflick Limit* is one cool book ... it studies the world writ large with a probing, at times scientific eye,' says *Matrix*.

POETRY • 88 PGS • APRIL 2009 • ISBN 978 1 55245 217 2 • \$16.95 CDN \$14.95 US



## The Alphabet Game: A bpNichol Reader

edited by Darren Wershler-Henry and Lori Emerson

bpNichol was one of Canada's most eclectic, entertaining and enigmatic poets, making startling innovations in the development of poetry and profoundly influencing both his own and subsequent generations of writers.

*The Alphabet Game: A bpNichol Reader* amasses key texts from the very broad spectrum of Nichol's work, including both classic favourites and more obscure treasures. From the early type-writer poetry of *Konfessions of an Elizabethan Fan Dancer* and the life-long poem *The Martyrology* to the heartbreaking prose of *Journal* and the whimsical autobiography of *Selected Organs*, *The Alphabet Game* traces the trajectory of this wildly imaginative and prolific poet.

'An accessible, intelligent and deeply felt compendium ... Distilling bpNichol is impossible, but *The Alphabet Game* does just that, and brilliantly,' says *Canadian Literature*.

POETRY • 336 PGS • OCT 2007 • ISBN 978 1 55245 187 8 • \$21.95 CDN \$18.95 US



## Human Resources

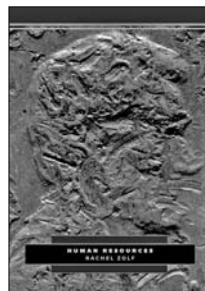
poetry by Rachel Zolf

WINNER OF THE 2008 TRILLIUM BOOK AWARD FOR POETRY

‘Zolf transforms a necessary social anger into the pure fuel that takes us to “the beautiful excess of the unshackled referent,” says Lisa Robertson.

POETRY • 96 PGS • MAR 2007 • ISBN 978 1 55245 182 3

\$16.95 CDN \$14.95 US



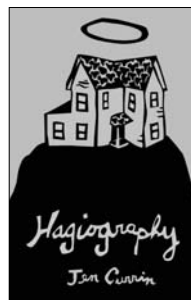
## Hagiography

poetry by Jen Currin

‘Some really ‘wow’ poems ... Currin’s verse is mysterious, full-blooded and packed with juicy lines. Here the world is populated with fortune stockings, blood dancers, bruised hats and paper brides,’ notes *Geist*.

POETRY • 96 PGS • MAR 2008 • ISBN 978 1 55245 197 7

\$16.95 CDN \$14.95 US



## The Laundromat Essay

poetry by Kyle Buckley

‘A postmodern mix of poetics, absurd parable and essay ... the circuitous route of the text and annotation-poems are fascinating ... the interference of Buckley’s mind-warping theories find a few glimpses of the real,’ marvels *NewPages*.

POETRY • 80 PGS • OCT 2008 • ISBN 978 1 55245 206 6

\$16.95 CDN \$14.95 US



## Blerf

poetry by Jordan Scott

‘Scott has taken his so-called impediment and crafted a poetry that is physically beautiful, conceptually rich and relevant to the world outside the book that contains it,’ says the *Globe and Mail*.

POETRY • 72 PGS • APR 2008 • ISBN 978 1 55245 199 1

\$16.95 CDN \$14.95 US



## Crystallography

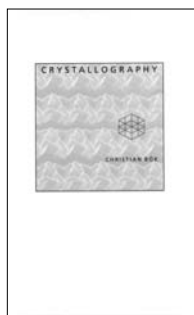
poetry by Christian Bök

SHORTLISTED FOR THE GERALD LAMPERT AWARD

The *Globe and Mail* calls *Crystallography* ‘a work of considerable strength and many beauties.’

POETRY • 160 PGS • JUNE 2003 • ISBN 978 1 55245 119 9

\$17.95 CDN / US



## Eternal Hydra

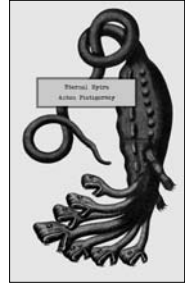
a play by Anton Piatigorsky

WINNER OF FOUR 2009 DORA AWARDS

'A play of such tight structure, such cerebral content and such sure drama that the thoughtful theatregoer could hardly fail to be impressed,' says the *Globe and Mail*.

DRAMA • 112 PGS • MAY 2009 • ISBN 978 1 55245 201 1

\$16.95 CDN \$14.95 US



## [boxhead]

a play by Darren O'Donnell

'Audacious, thought-provoking and frequently hilarious ... [a] complex of existential postulations, metaphysical ruminations and poop jokes,' raves *Eye Weekly*.

DRAMA • 96 PGS • OCT 2008 • ISBN 978 1 55245 210 3

\$16.95 CDN \$14.95 US



## Age of Arousal

a play by Linda Griffiths

FEATURED AT THE 2010 SHAW FESTIVAL

'Endlessly witty, vigorous, funny ... brilliantly inventive,' says the *Calgary Herald*.

DRAMA • 176 PGS • NOV 2007 • ISBN 978 1 55245 190 8

\$17.95 CDN \$13.95 US



## Hippies and Bolsheviks and Other Plays

three plays by Amiel Gladstone

'If *Hippies and Bolsheviks* is any indication of the quality of work at this year's playRites Festival, Calgary theatregoers are in for a phenomenal month,' notes the *Calgary Sun*.

DRAMA • 152 PGS • APR 2007 • ISBN 978 1 55245 183 0

\$18.95 CDN \$16.95 US



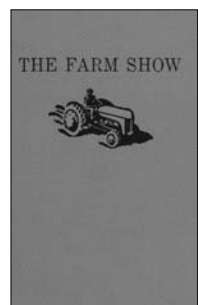
## Farm Show

a play by Ted Johns and Paul Thompson

'The idea was to take a group of actors out to a farming community and build a play of what we could see and learn ... we hope that out of it will emerge a picture of a complex and living community.' – Paul Thompson (from the Introduction)

DRAMA • 112 PGS • NOV 1999 • ISBN 978 1 55245 012 3

\$13.95 CDN / US



## My Winnipeg

by Guy Maddin

'Maddin succeeds brilliantly in this underworld tour ... while the columnar orientation of the text allows the author's rich prose to burst from the page in contoured skyline swathes, the use of footnoting conversely draws the reader deeper into the city's velvety heart,' praises *Filmmaker Magazine*.

FILM • 192 PGS • APRIL 2009 • ISBN 978 1 55245 211 0

\$27.95 CDN / US

AVAILABLE WITH DVD • ISBN 978 1 55245 212 7

\$35.95 CDN (NO US RIGHTS)



## Practical Dreamers: Conversations with Movie Artists

by Mike Hoolboom

'Everyone should read Mike Hoolboom's *Practical Dreamers* ... This work is in the tradition of Godard and Truffaut and other filmmakers who became devoted to an examination of the work of their peers,' says the *Globe and Mail*.

FILM STUDIES • 276 PGS • MAY 2008 • ISBN 978 1 55245 200 4

\$29.95 CDN / US



## Reel Asian: Asian Canada on Screen

edited by Elaine Chang

From artist-run centres, theories of hyphenation, distribution networks and gay and lesbian cinema to F-words, new media technologies and sweet 'n' sour controversies, *Reel Asian: Asian Canada on Screen* presents a multi-faceted picture of independent Asian film in Canada.

FILM STUDIES • 352 PGS • NOV 2007 • ISBN 978 1 55245 192 2 •

\$29.95 CDN \$24.95 US



## From the Atelier Tovar

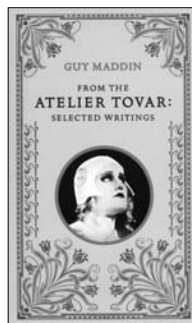
by Guy Maddin

ONE OF THE VILLAGE VOICE'S 25 BEST BOOKS OF 2003

'[Maddin] writes with an ornate elegance, humour and ease that makes this one of the happiest book events of the year,' says the *Village Voice*.

FILM • 240 PGS • OCT 2003 • ISBN 978 1 55245 131 1

\$24.95 CDN \$19.95 US



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**TITLES IN PRINT**
**Fiction**

					<b>CDN</b>	<b>US</b>
978 1 55245 130 4	All My Friends Are Superheroes	Andrew Kaufman	2003		\$16.95	\$14.95
978 1 55245 214 1	Amphibian	Carla Gunn	2009		\$19.95	\$17.95
978 1 55245 122 9	Animal Sciences, The	Ron Hotz	2003		\$18.95	\$15.95
978 1 55245 142 7	Biting the Error	Burger et al.	2004		\$22.95	\$17.95
978 1 55245 120 5	Blue Books, The	Nicole Brossard	2003		\$24.95	\$19.95
978 1 55245 140 3	Cannibal and Melancholy ...	Catherine Mavrikakis	2004		\$18.95	\$14.95
978 1 55245 115 1	Cars	Bowering, Knighton	2002		\$17.95	\$17.95
978 1 55245 203 5	Chase and Haven	Michael Blouin	2008		\$19.95	\$17.95
978 1 55245 158 8	City Man, The	Howard Akler	2005		\$18.95	\$14.95
978 1 896356 06 8	Dark Rides	Derek McCormack	2006		\$12.95	
978 1 896356 15 0	Darkness Then a Blown Kiss	Golda Fried	2006		\$12.95	\$12.95
978 1 55245 157 1	Down Sterling Road	Adrian Michael Kelly	2005		\$21.95	\$16.95
978 1 55245 228 8	Drifts, The	Thom Vernon	2010		\$19.95	\$17.95
978 1 55245 108 3	Dying Poem, The	Rob Budde	2002		\$18.95	\$18.95
978 1 55245 213 4	Fences in Breathing	Nicole Brossard	2009		\$18.95	\$16.95
978 1 55245 196 0	Girls Fall Down	Maggie Helwig	2008		\$20.95	\$18.95
978 1 55245 184 7	Girls Who Saw Everything, The	Sean Dixon	2007		\$21.95	
978 1 55245 060 4	Great Canadian Sonnet, The	McFadden, Curnoe	1974, 2001		\$16.95	\$16.95
978 1 55245 100 7	How the Blessed Live	Susannah M. Smith	2002		\$18.95	\$18.95
978 1 55245 139 7	I know you are but what am I?	Heather Birrell	2004		\$18.95	\$14.95
978 1 55245 227 1	Isobel and Emile	Alan Reed	2010		\$18.95	\$16.95
978 1 55245 173 1	King	Tanya Chapman	2006		\$21.95	\$16.95
978 1 55245220 2	Lemon	Cordelia Strube	2009		\$19.95	\$17.95
978 1 55245 069 7	Lenny Bruce Is Dead	Jonathan Goldstein	2001		\$17.95	
978 1 55245 080 2	Lurvy	Hal Niedzviecki	1999		\$16.95	\$16.95
978 1 55245 172 4	Mauve Desert	Nicole Brossard	1990, 2006		\$19.95	\$14.95
978 1 55245 180 9	Milk Chicken Bomb, The	Andrew Wedderburn	2007		\$21.95	\$16.95
978 1 55245 166 3	Miss Lamp	Chris Ewart	2006		\$19.95	\$14.95
978 1 55245 151 9	Nellcott Is My Darling	Golda Fried	2005		\$17.95	\$14.95
978 1 55245 045 1	New Motor Queen City	Patricia Seaman	1998		\$19.95	\$16.95
978 1 55245 089 5	Nightingales, The	Patricia Seaman	2001		\$18.95	\$18.95
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