



Coach House Books | Spring 2011

Coach House Books: the upper crust of innovative literature!

Spring is here, and Coach House Books has a new batch of delicious titles on its plate. Read through our tasty catalogue; we think you'll agree our books are a crust above.

Last year, our final *uTOpia* book, *Local Motion*, made civic engagement seem as easy as pie, but it wasn't just nonfiction where we made all our dough. Readers and critics alike found new novels *The Obituary*, by Gail Scott, and *When Fenelon Falls*, by Dorothy Ellen Palmer, very filling. And new poetry collections from Jon Paul Fiorentino, Gary Barwin and Jonathan Ball had readers flocking to bookstores like they were led by the Pied Piper himself. That's not to mention a couple other slices of literary heaven – a play collection by Brendan Gall, *Minor Complications*, and reissues of Jonathan Goldstein's *Lenny Bruce Is Dead* and Lisa Robertson's *Occasional Work and Seven Walks from the Office for Soft Architecture* – also published this fall. Cordelia Strube's citric *Lemon* was even shortlisted for the Trillium Book Award and longlisted for the Giller Prize! Yes, last year had our critics eating humble pie (or shutting their pie-holes, at the very least).

And we've popped a fresh new list of titles into the oven for spring. We're pumpkin' (or pumpin') out the hits. With the Maytree Foundation, we'll bring you *Five Good Ideas*, a book that helps establish key (lime) practices for non-profit organizations. Readers have been pie-ning for Sean Dixon's new novel, *The Many Revenges of Kip Flynn*, and Suzette Mayr's new book *Monoceros* is a yummy confection of comedy and tragedy that also has fans salivating. We'll dish out the best in new poetry – debut collections from Helen Guri and Gabe Foreman. A reissue of cult hit *The Brave Never Write Poetry* will throw a pie in the face of literary convention. And the inimitable Steve Reinke returns to the press with a piping-hot collection of writings, *The Shimmering Beast*.

So, don't be a flake or misconstru(del) us! We've got a meringue-ulous season ahead! Dig in and take a bite out of Coach House!

Coach House Books

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Cover illustration [*Left Middle Finger*, photograph, 2007, 34.5 x 43 in.]
by Kevin Van Aelst.

**Five Good Ideas:
Practical Strategies for Non-Profit Success**
edited by Alan Broadbent and Ratna Omidvar

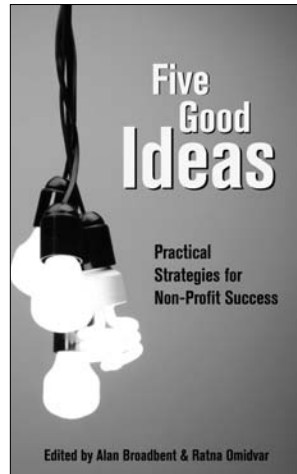
Non-profits are big business. According to a recent Johns Hopkins report, third-sector institutions in Belgium, the Czech Republic, Japan, the U.S. and Canada have been growing at an average rate that is twice the growth rate of their GDPs. Canada is home to the second largest non-profit workforce in the world, employing 2 million paid staff and contributing \$112 billion to our economy each year. We are also recognized worldwide as an important generator of ideas and agent of social change.

Maytree, a Canadian foundation established in 1982, has long been immersed in the dialogue surrounding the growth of the non-profit sector. From its extensive network of non-profit, government and corporate-sector leaders, Alan Broadbent and Ratna Omidvar have amassed a collection of practical ideas for running non-profits.

As the sector expands to embrace new issues, there is increased pressure for accountability, relevancy and efficiency. Practitioners are expected to be experts in a variety of fields. *Five Good Ideas* offers information, strategies for action and management solutions that are easy to implement and will improve how organizations function. It is a testament to what can happen when people from a variety of backgrounds get together to share their skills and knowledge.

Alan Broadbent is the chair and CEO of Avana Capital Corporation and the chair of Maytree. He also serves as the chair of the Tides Canada Foundation and Happy Planet Foods and is a member of the Governors' Council of the Toronto Public Library, a senior fellow at Massey College, a member of the Order of Canada and a recipient of the Queen's Jubilee Medal. Alan is the author of the book *Urban Nation*.

Ratna Omidvar is the president of Maytree. She also serves as a director of the Toronto City Summit Alliance and is the chair of the board of the Toronto Region Immigrant Employment Council. Ratna was appointed to the Order of Ontario in 2006, and in 2010 was named the *Globe and Mail's* Nation Builder of the Decade for Citizenship.



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BUSINESS / MANAGEMENT
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JUNE 2011

- book to be launched at event in June
- excerpts pitched to the *Globe and Mail*, *Toronto Star*, *Financial Post*
- pursuing promotional opportunities with non-profit organizations and associations
- print ads:
The NonProfit Times,
This Magazine,
New Internationalist

Monoceros

a novel by Suzette Mayr

A seventeen-year-old boy, bullied and heartbroken, hangs himself. And although he felt terribly alone, his suicide changes everyone around him.

His parents are devastated. His secret boyfriend's girlfriend is relieved. His unicorn- and virginity-obsessed classmate, Faraday, is shattered; she wishes she had made friends with him that time she sold him an Iced Cappuccino at Tim Hortons. His English teacher, mid-divorce and mid-menopause, wishes she could remember the dead student's name, that she could care more about her students than her ex's new girlfriend. Who happens to be her cousin. The school guidance counsellor, Walter, feels guilty – maybe he should have made an effort when the kid asked for help. Max, the principal, is worried about how it will reflect on the very Catholic school. And Walter, who's been secretly in a relationship with Max for years, thinks that's a little callous. He's also tired of Max's obsession with some sci-fi show on TV. And Max wishes Walter would lose some weight and remember to use a coaster.

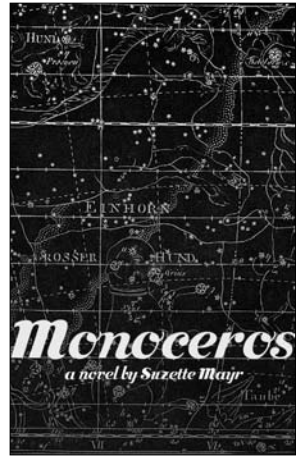
And then Max meets a drag queen named Crêpe Suzette. And everything changes.

Monoceros is a masterpiece of the tragicomic; by exploring the effects of a suicide on characters outside the immediate circle, Mayr offers a dazzlingly original look at the ripple effects – both poignant and funny – of a tragedy. A tender, bold work.

Praise for Suzette Mayr's *Venous Hum*:

'*Venous Hum* never fails to impress. Brash, macabre and irreverent, it's the kind of story you want to hear from a latter-day Scheherazade: so intoxicating you crave more.' – *Vancouver Sun*

Suzette Mayr is the author of three previous novels: *Moon Honey*, *The Widows* and *Venous Hum*. *The Widows* was shortlisted for the Commonwealth Writers' Prize for Best Book in the Canada-Caribbean region, and has been translated into German. *Moon Honey* was shortlisted for the Writers' Guild of Alberta's Best First Book and Best Novel Awards. Suzette Mayr lives and works in Calgary.



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- promotional temporary tattoos
- author appearances: Calgary, Toronto, Montreal, Windsor, Vancouver
- print ads: *Globe and Mail*, *Geist*, *Broken Pencil*, *Matrix*



The Many Revenges of Kip Flynn

a novel by Sean Dixon

It all started with a black rose and a rich young man. And a house with a creek running through it. And then there she was, Kip Flynn, standing beside her dead boyfriend and agreeing to take a large sum of money from the young man's father to keep quiet. As if she could have done anything else, being so scared and grief-stricken and maybe pregnant.

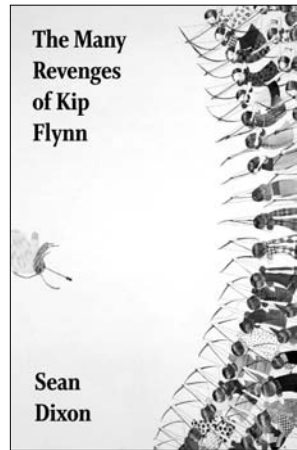
But that's not the end of it. You see, there's some kind of connection between Kip and this rich developer's son that keeps them tight in one another's orbit. So, when Kip awakens from her grief, intent on revenge, they find themselves pursuing one another with a ferocity they can barely understand, one that spirals outward, with subway accidents and arson and drainpipes and backhoe wars, to envelop roommates, two guilty fathers, a window-washer or two, landlords, family secrets, Vietnamese gangsters, a standup-bass player and an activist tour guide. And concluding in the subterranean heart of Toronto itself, which, like Kip, is torn between vengefulness and growth.

Praise for Sean Dixon's *The Girls Who Saw Everything*:

'The pleasure of the book comes from Dixon's deft handling of his weightier literary themes, making it reminiscent of the kind of irrepressibly mischievous and literary novels that John Barth used to write. Call it populist pointdexterity.' – *Quill e' Quire*

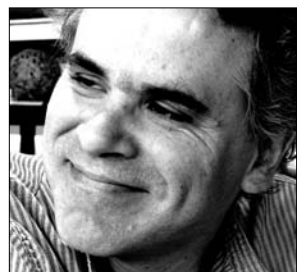
'What makes Sean Dixon's first novel so electrifyingly smart and charming is its abundant passion.'
– *Georgia Straight*

Sean Dixon is a novelist, playwright and banjo player. His first novel, *The Girls Who Saw Everything* (p. 12), is about a young women's book club in Montreal that opts to read the first book ever written, on its original stone tablets. It's been published all over the English-speaking world and translated into Romanian. He is the author of two books for young readers, *The Feathered Cloak* and *The Winter Drey*, and many plays, including those collected in *AWOL: Three Plays for Theatre SKAM* (p. 22). Currently he is writing a new play involving Ovid and the banjo.



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A Complete Encyclopedia of Different Types of People

poetry by Gabe Foreman

Perverts

*They have day jobs
just like you and me
if we had jobs; and hairstyles like ours
if only we could remove these helmets*

People who rely on stereotypes are often vilified. But really, is there a better way to classify people? There are some taxonomical difficulties, though. Exactly how many types of people are there? What behaviours are characteristic of each particular group? How do you know if you've spotted an armchair psychologist or a kleptomaniac?

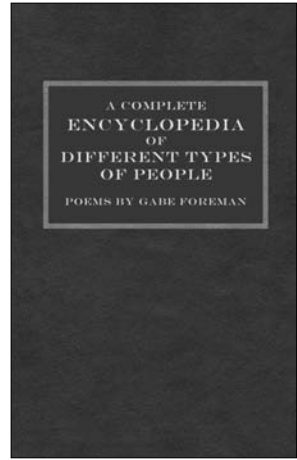
Gabe Foreman's *A Complete Encyclopedia of Different Types of People* is not your average reference book. It turns a series of sociological case studies into a functional encyclopedia that doubles as a unique, achingly funny, always engaging collection of poems. 'Bridesmaids,' 'Day Traders,' 'Entomologists' and 'Number Crunchers' are all dutifully catalogued in a series of luminously strange, compellingly original lyric and prose poems.

The resulting field guide to our disparate humanity is often absurd, sometimes sad and frequently a mixture of both, as each entry unravels according to its own spidery logic.

'This compendium of bipeds makes all others obsolete. *A Complete Encyclopedia of Different Types of People* is full of eclectic wisdom, uncanny beasts and refracted truisms. Foreman's cerebral sleights-of-hand are so electric, my mind wouldn't close my eyes. It's about time someone got "us" down for what we are.'

– Jeremy Dodds, author of *Crabwise to the Hounds*

Gabe Foreman was born in Thunder Bay. He has worked as a tree planter in British Columbia, Alberta and Ontario. He's a co-founder of littlefishcartpress, and his writing has appeared in a number of literary journals, including *Grain*, *Fiddlehead* and *Event*. His work placed second in CV2's two-day poem contest and a selection was shortlisted for the CBC Literary Awards. Currently, he lives in Montreal, where he manages the soup kitchen at a long-established mission.



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Match

poetry by Helen Guri

*What is it to be plaster-cast in the dense cream of June?
Robed in a chain mail of summer afternoon, your dainties
hang like bricks from a clothesline, the mouth pares its
possibilities: gape or zip,*

and the weed-whackers make no noise at all.

Robert Brand has given up on real women. Relationships just haven't ever worked out well for him. He has, however, found a (somewhat problematic) solution, a new feminine ideal: the 110-pound sex doll he ordered over the internet.

Showing an uncanny access to the voice of the rejected, unimpressive, emotionally challenged modern male, Helen Guri's debut collection explores Robert's transition from lost and lonely to loved, if only by the increasingly acrobatic voices in his mind.

Match's touching, whip-smart poems chart the limits of the mind/body relationship in decidedly virtual times. Does our hero's lovesick, wry, self-searching and often self-annihilating gaze signal some catastrophic aversion to depth or a feverish (if unsettling) reassertion of the romantic impulse? Can anything good really happen when the object of one's affection is, literally, an object? And if she looks like a human being, can you ever know for sure she isn't one?

Equal parts love story, social parody and radiant display of lyrical gymnastics, *Match* announces the arrival of a daring, forthright and stubbornly original new talent.

Helen Guri graduated from the University of Toronto's Creative Writing program, and has taught writing at Humber College. Her work has appeared in many Canadian journals, including *Arc*, *Descant*, *Event*, *Fiddlehead* and *Grain*. *Match* is her first collection. She lives in Toronto.



Match | Helen Guri

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The Brave Never Write Poetry

poetry by Daniel Jones

The brave ride streetcars to jobs early in the morning, have traffic accidents, rob banks. The brave have children, relationships, mortgages. The brave never write these things down in notebooks. The brave die and they are dead.

First published in 1985, when Daniel Jones was just twenty-six, *The Brave Never Write Poetry*, the poet/critic/novelist's lone collection of poems, was a cult hit, turning 'poetry' on its head before its author (then known simply as 'Jones') swore off verse entirely. Written in a direct, plainspoken, autobiographical and at times confessional style in the tradition of Charles Bukowski and Al Purdy, these confrontational poems about sex and boredom, drugs and suicide, document Jones' depressive, alcoholic years as an *enfant terrible*.

This long overdue revised edition brings Jones' unforgettable voice to a new generation of readers and includes the complete text of the original collection (including Jones' own sardonic assessments of his own poetry), a new preface by poet/critic Kevin Connolly, and postscript commentary from many of Jones' closest friends and literary colleagues.

'Mostly the book tours the bars, detoxification centres and psychiatric wards that have been Jones' homes away from home. Along the way there is much smoking, drinking, eating and vomiting – so much of the last that Jones makes a fair bid to become the poet laureate of puking.' – *Globe and Mail*

'It is bound to offend many who read it, and it is clearly meant to.' – *Rubicon*

Daniel Jones was born in Hamilton, Ontario, in 1959, and lived in Toronto from 1977 until his suicide in 1994. His books include the experimental novel *Obsessions*, a collection of minimalist short stories, *The People One Knows*, and the posthumously published 1978 (*Rush Hour Revisions*, re-released by Three O'Clock Press), a novel set in the Toronto punk scene, which Jones was working on at the time of his death.



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The Shimmering Beast

by Steve Reinke

Sure, art is long and life is short, but I am not troubled by this condition. What bothers me is that art is complex and I am simple, though conflicted – stupid. Art makes retards of us all. Writing about it is a clumsy thing, doomed to always miss what is most significant and instead gloss the petty. Criticism becomes an act of contrition, an extended apology. I am sorry – and sorry that this is the case.

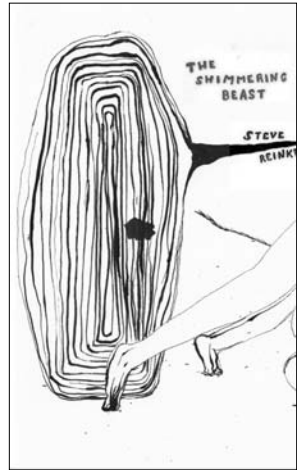
Steve Reinke is one of the most intriguing artists we've got; his scope is enormous, his imagination absolutely singular. His video art – *The Hundred Videos*, *Anthology of American Folk Song*, *Anal Masturbation* and *Object Loss* – practically define the genre. His drawings, needlepoint and installations are incisive and controversial. And so you might imagine that his writings are equally forceful. You wouldn't be wrong.

The Shimmering Beast collects Reinke's best prose pieces. Fiction, or criticism, or personal essays, or theft – each piece is all and none of these. All they have in common is that they all start with a text or work of art and depict some sort of engagement – usually phantasmic – with it.

There's a monologue by a 19th-century French pathologist, a response to Melanie Klein's *Narrative of a Child Analysis*, appreciations of the works of Susan Kealey and Philip Hoffman, thoughts on gay beaches and immigration and an imagined autobiography called 'History of Small Animals.'

Taken together, they document the process and reach of an artistic mind at the height of its powers. Some funny, some absurd, all oddly poignant, these writings will send your synapses firing in all directions.

Steve Reinke has exhibited his video work at such venues as the Museum of Modern Art, the National Gallery of Canada, the Power Plant, the International Film Festival Rotterdam, the Barcelona Museum of Contemporary Art and the Tate Modern. Throughout the 1990s he produced *The Hundred Videos*, and a book, *Everybody Loves Nothing: Scripts 1996–2004* (p. 19). He has co-edited several books, including *By the Skin of Their Tongues: Artist Video Scripts* and *Lux: A Decade of Artists' Film and Video*. He is currently Associate Professor of Art Theory & Practice at Northwestern University.



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 APRIL 2011

- book launch with Images Film Festival in Toronto
- promotional postcards
- author appearances: Toronto, Chicago



Local Motion: The Art of Civic Engagement in Toronto

edited by Dave Meslin, Christina Palassio and Alana Wilcox

Local Motion presents an in-depth analysis of civic engagement in Canada's largest city. How do we influence municipal decisions? What motivates ordinary citizens to take action and improve their community? How do neighbours organize together? Does City Hall facilitate engagement, or stand in the way?

Fourteen essays and profiles by in-the-trenches journalists explore electoral reform, civic organizations, zoning, the press gallery and grassroots activism.

'This original and inspiring book arms us with the practical tools we need to change our communities for the better, regardless of which politicians are in power. Read it and find out where the action is.'

– Naomi Klein

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



Stroll: Psychogeographic Walking Tours of Toronto

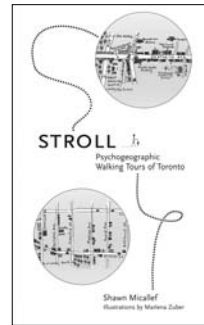
by Shawn Micallef, with illustrations by Marlena Zuber

Shawn Micallef has been examining Toronto's streetscapes for a decade. His psychogeographic reportages situate Toronto's buildings and streets in living, breathing detail, and tell us about the people who use them; the ways, intended or otherwise, that they are being used; and how they are evolving.

Stroll celebrates Toronto's details at the speed of walking, taking us from well-known spots like the CN tower and Pearson Airport to the overlooked corners of Scarborough and all the way to the end of the Leslie Street Spit. *Stroll* features thirty-two walks, a *flâneur* manifesto, a foreword by architecture critic John Bentley Mays, dozens of hand-drawn maps and illustrations by Marlena Zuber and a full-colour fold-out map.

'A smart and intimate guide to the city that makes you feel like an insider from start to finish.' – Douglas Coupland

URBAN STUDIES • 312 PGS • MAY 2010 • ISBN 978 1 55245 226 4 • \$24.95 CDN \$22.95 US



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

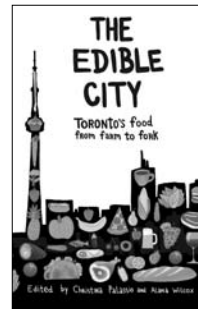
edited by Christina Palassio and Alana Wilcox

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.

'Fascinating looks at the history of beer, bread and just about every other foodstuff you can imagine ... empowering readers is exactly what *The Edible City* is sure to do.' – *Quill & Quire*

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



Occasional Works and Seven Walks from the Office of Soft Architecture: New Edition

by Lisa Robertson

This delectable book collects the rococo prose of Lisa Robertson, the ambulatory Office for Soft Architecture. There are essays – many originally published as catalogue texts by art galleries – on the syntax of the suburban home, Vancouver fountains, Value Village, the joy of synthetics, scaffolding and the persistence of the Himalayan blackberry. There are also seven Walks, tours of Vancouver sites – poetic dioramas, really, and more material than cement can ever be.

‘We say, on almost every page and with utmost reverence, Holy shit. ... Ever since, we have wanted to think like Robertson, write like her, maybe even be her.’ – *Village Voice*

URBAN STUDIES • 230 PGS • NOV 2010 • ISBN 978 1 55245 232 5 • \$19.95 CDN \$17.95 US



uTOPIA: Towards a New Toronto

edited by Jason McBride and Alana Wilcox

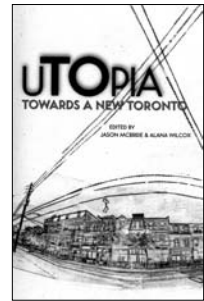
SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2006 TORONTO BOOK AWARD

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.

‘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



A Progressive Traditionalist: John M. Lyle, Architect

by Glenn McArthur

WINNER OF A 2010 HERITAGE TORONTO AWARD

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.’ – *Canadian Architecture*

‘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.’ – *Canadian Architecture*

ARCHITECTURE • 200 PGS • APR 2009 • ISBN 978 1 55245 218 9 • \$45 CDN / US



When Fenelon Falls

a novel by Dorothy Ellen Palmer

It's the summer of 1969, and as mankind takes its giant leap, Jordan May March, disabled bastard and genius, age fourteen, limps and schemes her way towards adulthood. Trapped at the family cottage, she spends her days memorizing Top 30 hits, avoiding her cousins and plotting to save the bullied, butter-tart-eating bear caged at the top of March Road. In her diary, reworking the scant facts of her adoption, Jordan imagines a hundred different scenarios for her conception on that night in 1954 when Hurricane Hazel tore Toronto to shreds.

But when bear-baiting cousin Derwood finds the diary, the target of his torture shifts to his adopted cousin. *When Fenelon Falls* will take you to a time and place that was never as idyllic as it seemed.

Lisa Moore calls it, 'Storytelling that is both funny and wise. The writing is strong and complex and the subject matter unique, important and emotionally moving.'

FICTION • 320 PGS • OCT 2010 • ISBN 978 1 55245 239 4 • \$21.95 CDN \$19.95 US



The Obituary

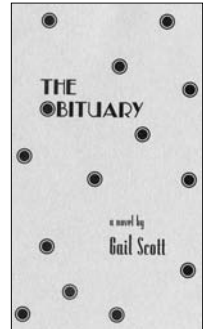
a novel by Gail Scott

Rosine is surrounded by ghosts: of her family, past lovers, an old Montreal and its politics. She's haunted by the shale pit workers who, in the 1880s, frequented the Crystal Palace grounds upon whose site her Mile-End triplex sits, as well as by an ancient Parisian gendarme lurking in her stairwell and by her dead maternal family, restless from a lifetime of denial of their Indigenous ancestry. It's possible that Rosine herself is a ghost.

But *The Obituary* is no whodunnit. As Rosine's narration splinters into three – a prurient fly buzzing over the action, a politically correct historian and a woman on a bus or lying in bed – the central question becomes who speaks for us when we speak.

'A beautiful, challenging poetic novel that is absolutely stunning in terms of image, sound and rhythm,' says *Vallum Magazine*.

FICTION • 168 PGS • OCT 2010 • ISBN 978 1 55245 233 2 • \$19.95 CDN (NO US RIGHTS)



The Drifts

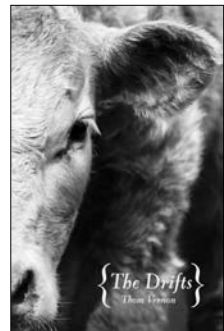
a novel by Thom Vernon

As a blizzard buries the ground, it uncovers the resentments, hopes and aches of a small town in northeastern Arkansas.

Julie finds herself, at forty-six, unexpectedly expectant. She can't stand the thought of being a mother again. Her husband, Charlie, won't talk about it. He's ended his affair with his friend, Wilson, but he's found a new and unusual kind of intimacy – with a calf. Wilson works in the Singer factory and loves Dol, a transsexual and divorced father of two. Their four stories – and voices – converge into one violently exquisite chord, as cold and harrowing as the snow.

The *Globe and Mail* calls it 'poignant, forceful, compelling ... a distinct contribution to CanLit and a great contemporary twist on the Southern Gothic tradition.'

FICTION • 250 PGS • APR 2010 • ISBN 978 1 55245 228 8 • \$19.95 CDN \$17.95 US



Lemon

a novel by Cordelia Strube

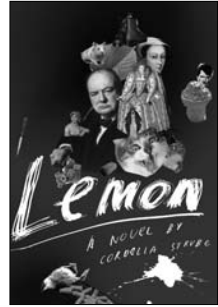
SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2010 TRILLIUM BOOK AWARD
 LONGLISTED FOR THE 2010 SCOTIABANK GILLER PRIZE

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 is] Canada's best best to succeed Alice Munro ... Read *Lemon*. Then leave it lying about for your sullen teen to "discover,"' instructs the *Toronto Star*.

FICTION • 260 PGS • OCT 2009 • ISBN 978 1 55245 220 2 • \$19.95 CDN \$17.95 US



Isobel and Emile

a novel by Alan Reed

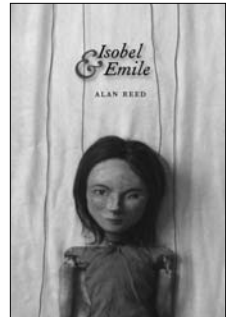
This is the story of Isobel and Emile.

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.

Told in a minimalist voice that is both stark and hypnotic, *Isobel and Emile* is the story of two lovers without each other.

'The novel is stark and simplistic, but in form only. The short sentences are bursting with pain. The repetition of mundane life is heavy with emotion,' says *See Magazine*.

FICTION • 160 PGS • APR 2010 • ISBN 978 1 55245 227 1 • \$18.95 CDN \$16.95 US



Lenny Bruce Is Dead: The New Edition

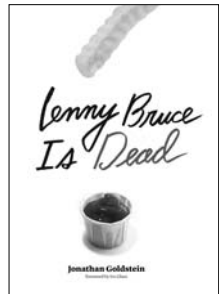
a novel by Jonathan Goldstein

Lenny Bruce Is Dead is the story of Joshua, a young man who's uncertain about a lot. He's having a hard time finding his way in the world; deciding on a career and keeping a girlfriend are too much to handle, not to mention the fact that after the death of his mother he's moved back into his childhood suburban home to be with his father, Chick.

The first novel by Jonathan Goldstein, host and producer of CBC's *WireTap* and author of *Ladies and Gentlemen ... The Bible!*, walks a fine tightrope between being searingly funny and poignant. The new edition features a foreword by *This American Life*'s Ira Glass.

'Jonathan Goldstein is one of the funniest and most original writers I can think of. Anything by him is better than anything by just about anyone else,' says David Sedaris.

FICTION • 144 PGS • OCT 2010 • ISBN 978 1 55245 240 0 • \$18.95 CDN (NO US RIGHTS)



Amphibian

a novel by Carla Gunn

SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2010 COMMONWEALTH WRITERS' PRIZE FOR BEST FIRST BOOK (CANADA AND CARIBBEAN REGION)

Nine-year-old Phineas William Walsh has an encyclopedic knowledge of the natural world. But 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.

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.

'Phin's voice is irresistible ... enraged yet brimming with love. Gunn's story, cutting despair with healing mirth, is his perfect vehicle,' says the *Globe and Mail*.

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



The Girls Who Saw Everything

a novel by Sean Dixon

ONE OF QUILL & QUIRE'S BEST BOOKS OF 2007

RIGHTS SOLD IN THE UK, US AND ROMANIA

The Lacuna Cabal Montreal Young Women's Book Club loves to bring to life the books they read. They're an unusual group: cross-dressing Aline, who is obsessed with the Baghdad Blogger; Missy, obsessed with the ticking of her biological clock; and Emmy, obsessed with manipulating Coby and his fitzbot. But when they begin to enact *The Epic of Gilgamesh*, in the early days of the Iraq War, the book begins to enact them instead, sending the Cabalists across the globe and driving our narrators, Jennifer and Danielle, out of their own tale.

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

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



Sentimental Exorcisms

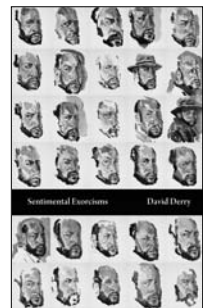
short fiction by David Derry

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. Either way, things are falling apart.

'Stories of weird obsessions, the kind in which one really lousy decision can lead to all sorts of mayhem ... These are delicious portrayals of delusion,' declares *Uptown*.

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



Girls Fall Down

a novel by Maggie Helwig

SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2009 TORONTO BOOK AWARD

‘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,’ exclaims *NOW Magazine*.

FICTION • 300 PGS • APR 2008 • ISBN 978 1 55245 196 0

\$20.95 CDN \$18.95



Stunt

a novel by Claudia Dey

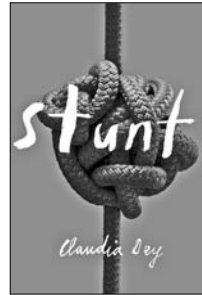
ONE OF THE GLOBE AND MAIL’S 100 BEST BOOKS OF 2008

SHORTLISTED FOR THE AMAZON.CA FIRST NOVEL AWARD

‘A surrealist coming-of-age novel – a shot of *Catcher in the Rye* with a *One Hundred Years of Solitude* chaser ... It’s as if poet Anne Carson and satirist Mordecai Richler accidentally collided at a drunken PEN fundraiser to produce a mischievous, magical and observant girl-child,’ praises the *Toronto Star*.

FICTION • 248 PGS • APR 2008 • ISBN 978 1 55245 195 3

\$19.95 CDN \$17.95 US



The Mitochondrial Curiosities of Marcells 1 to 19

a young adult novel by Jocelyn Brown

‘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 • 180 PGS • MAY 2009 • ISBN 978 1 55245 209 7

\$13.95 CDN/US



Twenty Miles

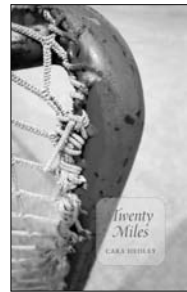
a novel by Cara Hedley

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



Fences In Breathing

a novel by Nicole Brossard

SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2009 ROGERS WRITERS’ TRUST

FICTION PRIZE

‘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

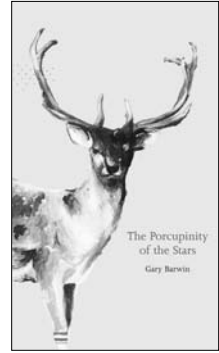
\$18.95 CDN \$16.95 US



The Porcupinity of the Stars

poetry by Gary Barwin

Poet and musician Gary Barwin both continues and extends the alchemical collision of language, imaginative flight and quiet beauty that have made him unique among contemporary poets. *The Porcupinity of the Stars* sees the always bemused and wistful poet reaching into new and deeper territory, addressing the joys and vagaries of perception in poems touching on family, loss, wonder and the shifting, often perplexing nature of consciousness. His Heisenbergian sensibility honed to a fine edge, the poems in this bright, bold and acutely visual book add a surreptitious intensity and wry maturity to Barwin's trademark gifts for subtle humour, compassion and invention.



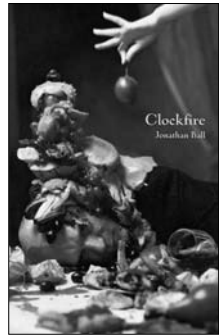
The *Winnipeg Free Press* proclaims, 'This is a collection for both the heart and the head. Highly recommended.'

POETRY • 96 PGS • OCT 2010 • ISBN 978 1 55245 235 6 • \$16.95 CDN \$14.95 US

Clockfire

poetry by Jonathan Ball

Jonathan Ball's *Clockfire* is a suite of poetic blueprints for imaginary plays that would be impossible to produce – plays in which, for example, the director burns out the sun, actors murder their audience or the laws of physics are defiled. The poems are predicated on the idea that modern theatre lacks both 'clocks' and 'fire' and thus fails to offer its audiences immediate, violent engagement. They sometimes resemble the scores for Fluxus 'happenings,' but replace the casual aesthetic and DIY simplicity of Fluxus art with something more akin to the brutality of Artaud's theatre of cruelty. Ball's 'plays' break free of the constraints of reality and artistic category to revel in their own dazzling, magnificent horror.



'Darkly comic, mysterious, horrifying, shocking and so postmodernly provocative you can't read them quick enough. The limits of Ball's imagination are unimaginable,' pronounces the *Telegraph Journal*.

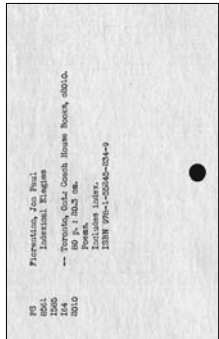
POETRY • 104 PGS • OCT 2010 • ISBN 978 1 55245 236 3 • \$16.95 CDN \$14.95 US

Indexical Elegies

poetry by Jon Paul Fiorentino

Set in his two home cities of Winnipeg and Montreal, Jon Paul Fiorentino's *Indexical Elegies* archives losses of people, places and past lives. The title sequence is a moving elegy for his friend and mentor, the late Robert Allen. Fiorentino spins philosopher Charles Sanders Peirce's notion of the index out in intriguing lexical threads, breaking down and rebuilding elegy and language, parsing how the beloved and newly lost can in some ways feel more present in their absence.

'[Fiorentino's] combination of feeling and thought gives this book remarkable power,' says the *Montreal Review of Books*.



POETRY • 80 PGS • OCT 2010 • ISBN 978 1 55245 234 9 • \$16.95 CDN \$14.95 US

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.

'This is courageous and moving work that feels like the struggle of a lifetime condensed into potent lines.' – Judith Butler

POETRY • 96 PGS • APRIL 2010 • ISBN 978 1 55245 229 5 • \$16.95 CDN \$14.95 US



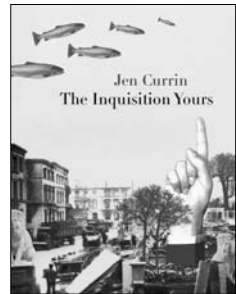
The Inquisition Yours

poetry by Jen Currin

In her ambitious follow-up to *Hagiography*, 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.

Prairie Fire Review of Books says, 'It leaves us dazed and amazed at the jumble of words upon the page that fall together like confetti in a celebratory parade of language.'

POETRY • 112 PGS • APRIL 2010 • ISBN 978 1 55245 230 1 • \$16.95 CDN \$14.95 US



Rhapsodomancy

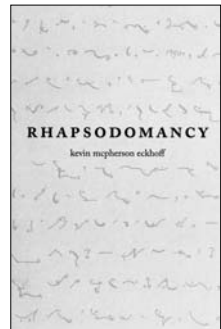
poetry by kevin mcpherson eckhoff

Reading is slow, and writing slower. Words are *so* old-fashioned. Sir Isaac Pitman thought so, even in 1837, which is why he devised Shorthand. In the 1950s, John Malone went one further with Unifon, a forty-character phonetic alphabet. Both projects reached for artful utility, and both have largely been forgotten.

In *Rhapsodomancy*, kevin mcpherson eckhoff uses these two phonic alphabets as image, teasing out the relationship between voice and words and visual poetry. Can pictures represent voice? Can unutterable writing express thought? *Rhapsodomancy* answers such questions via empty suits reciting onomatopoeia, unreal alphabets and phonemes scattered to foretell the future.

'I showed this to a friend and he said "Gorgeous!" I alternated between "Cool!" and "What the hell?" We both looked at it as a source for tattoo ideas.' – *Broken Pencil*

POETRY • 88 PGS • APRIL 2010 • ISBN 978 1 55245 231 8 • \$16.95 CDN \$14.95 US



Joy Is So Exhausting

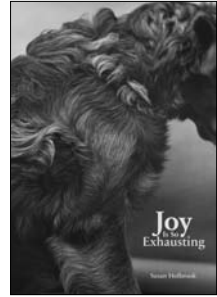
poetry by Susan Holbrook

SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2010 TRILLIUM BOOK AWARD FOR POETRY

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. 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 critical rapport with the written word.

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

POETRY • 80 PGS • OCTOBER 2009 • ISBN 978 1 55245 222 6 • \$16.95 CDN \$14.95 US



The Certainty Dream

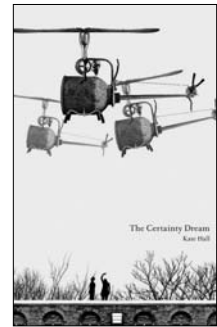
poetry by Kate Hall

SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2010 GRIFFIN POETRY PRIZE, THE A. M. KLEIN POETRY PRIZE AND THE GERALD LAMPERT AWARD

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 mynah 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.

'Her means include lots of philosophers' names and sparkly bits of their thought, but these are not decoratively invoked, they are woven into the sense that she makes and the mood in which she makes it,' marvels the Griffin jury.

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



Eunoia: The Upgraded Edition

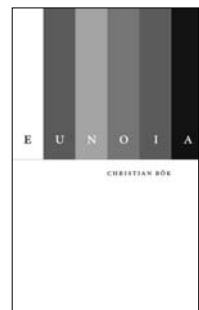
poetry by Christian Bök

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 Prize.

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

POETRY • 120 PGS • SEPT 2009 • ISBN 978 1 55245 225 7 • \$16.95 CDN \$14.95 US



Lisa Robertson's Magenta Soul Whip

poetry by Lisa Robertson

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

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



Expressway

poetry by Sina Queyras

SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2009 GOVERNOR GENERAL'S AWARD
AND THE PAT LOWTHER AWARD

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

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



Crabwise to the Hounds

poetry by Jeramy Dodds

SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2009 GRIFFIN POETRY PRIZE,
WINNER OF THE 2009 TRILLIUM PRIZE FOR POETRY

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



The Hayflick Limit

poetry by Matthew Tierney

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

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



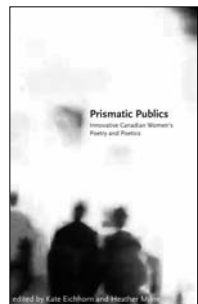
Prismatic Publics:

Innovative Canadian Women's Poetry and Poetics

edited by Kate Eichhorn and Heather Milne

'Prismatic Publics has an automatic place in the CanLit canon ... The interviews are rich and introspective, permitting readers a glimpse into a variety of poetics, practices, and more intimately, into these writers' lives,' notes *Matrix*.

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



Minor Complications

two plays by Brendan Gall

In a world where hilarity and heartbreak are next-door neighbours, minor complications inevitably arise. In this first collection of plays by Brendan Gall, including *Wide Awake Hearts* and *A Quiet Place*, these *Minor Complications* become groundbreakingly major. Hannah Moscovitch says, 'Brendan Gall deals with the complicated relationship between fiction and truth and, as always, he offers up razor-sharp insights.'

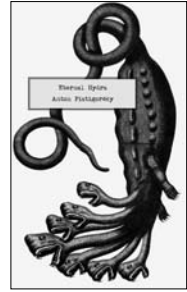


DRAMA • 152 PAGES • NOV 2010 • ISBN 1 55245 237 0 • \$18.95 CDN \$16.95 US

Eternal Hydra

a play by Anton Piatigorsky

When a young scholar finds *Eternal Hydra*, a long-lost, legendary and encyclopedic novel by an obscure Irish writer, she brings the manuscript to an esteemed publisher. But Vivian's obsession with the dead author, who has materialized in her life, is challenged by the work of a contemporary historical novelist, and she's forced to face confounding questions about authorship, racism and ethical behaviour. Weaving between contemporary New York, 1930s Paris and New Orleans in the years following the Civil War, *Eternal Hydra* is a postmodern look at the making of a modernist masterpiece.



DRAMA • 112 PGS • MAY 2009 • ISBN 978 1 55245 201 1 • \$16.95 CDN \$14.95 US

[boxhead]

a play by Darren O'Donnell

Dr. Thoughtless Actions, a young geneticist, awakes one morning to find a cardboard box secured to his head. Unable to wrench it off, he attempts suicide, inadvertently cloning himself, creating Dr. Wishful Thinking. The two losers fall madly in love, fall in science and fail to make a baby. Through a series of rapid exchanges, verbal games and musical numbers, they discover that all their thoughts come from God, all their words come from the devil and their desire for love is a habit acquired from the cinema.



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

It's a time of passion and confusion. Virtue is barely holding down its petticoats. The year is 1885, and the typewriter and the suffrage movement are sending things topsy-turvy. Miss Mary Barfoot runs a school for secretaries with her young lover, Miss Rhoda Nunn. But when the Misses Madden – spinsters Virginia and Alice and beautiful young Monica – arrive, along with the attractive Dr. Everard Barfoot, things can never be the same. *Age of Arousal* is a lavish, sexy, frenetic ensemble piece about the forbidden and gloriously liberated self – genre-busting, rule-bending and ambitiously original.



DRAMA • 176 PGS • NOV 2007 • ISBN 978 1 55245 190 8 • \$17.95 CDN \$13.95 US

My Winnipeg

by Guy Maddin

SHORTLISTED FOR THE CAROL SHIELDS WINNIPEG BOOK AWARD

The Winnipeg of filmmaker Guy Maddin is not the Winnipeg you'll find in tourist brochures. When the iconoclastic auteur of *The Saddest Music in the World* and *Brand upon the Brain!* decided to tackle the subject of his hometown, it could only have become a 'docufantasia,' a melange of personal history, civic tragedy and mystical hypothesizing.

The book companion invites readers to venture deeper into the mind of Maddin with the text of his narration, wantonly annotated with an avalanche of marginal digressions, stills, outtakes, family photos, emails, essays, deoculations, animations, notebook pages and collages. There's even an X-ray of Spanky the pug and an in-depth interview with Michael Ondaatje.

FILM • 192 PGS • APRIL 2009 • ISBN 978 1 55245 211 0 • \$27.95 CDN / US



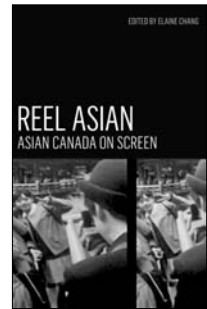
Reel Asian: Asian Canada on Screen

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.

Reel Asian brings together creators of award-winning features and acclaimed experimental shorts; critics, curators, artists and activists; enemy aliens, impersonators, ex-pats and 'Food Jammers' to explore how history and culture have played out onscreen. Whether calling geopolitical and generic categories into question or finding new ways of unleashing the magic of the cinematic image, the anthology showcases the ways in which Asian Canadians are making their distinctive mark on screens in Canada and beyond.

FILM STUDIES • 352 PGS • NOV 2007 • ISBN 978 1 55245 192 2 • \$29.95 CDN \$24.95 US



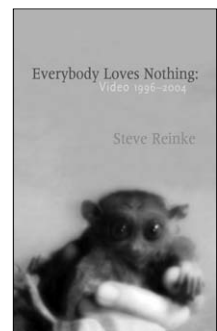
Everybody Loves Nothing

by Steve Reinke

Artist and writer Steve Reinke is best known for his video work, an acerbic oeuvre that spans over a decade and includes his most famous piece, *The 100 Videos*, literally a hundred short videos in which he explores the myriad permutations of identity, sexuality and art. The titles of his videos – *In the Realm of Perpetual Embarrassment*, *Sad Disco Fantasia*, *How Photographs Are Stored in the Brain* are some examples – encapsulate the tenor of Reinke's work: deadpan, self-deprecating, personal and always funny. Composed of original and found footage (from home movies, training films, porn flicks), the videos are typically diaristic, often philosophical, even elegaic.

Everybody Loves Nothing contains Reinke's scripts from 1996 to 2004, accompanied by numerous illustrative stills. An extensive interview with filmmaker Mike Hoolboom provides a broad overview of Reinke's career, themes and ambitions.

FILM STUDIES • 200 PGS • SEPT 2004 • ISBN 978 1 55245 148 9 • \$21.95 CDN \$19.95 US



TITLES IN PRINT
Fiction

					CDN	US
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
9781 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 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
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