



WORDS ON THE SHORE

2010

CAMPBELL RIVER: BIRTHPLACE OF SIR RICHARD MUSGRAVE'S TYEE

By Susan Musgrave



*A model of the 70lbs Tyee that
Sir Richard Musgrave caught at
Campbell River, 1896.*

As a child my sole my claim to glory
was this big-ass fish, a 70 lb tyee, caught
by my great-grandfather at Campbell River in 1896.
A replica hung in the Royal Museum; on field trips
I lured my whole class to the glass case displaying
the facsimile of the leviathan my great-grandfather
played for three days (in our family it was legendary)
alone in a boat at the mouth of (what I imagined to be)
the deep dark green mysterious Campbell River
all set about by cedar trees. A plaque acclaimed it
to be the largest salmon ever taken on a simple rod
and line, *by Sir Richard Musgrave*. Not only had my great-
grandfather landed a fish heavier than me, plainly
I came from royalty. How hard I fought

to hook and hold on to that vainglorious notion,
the stoop-shouldered child I was, standing erect
for once, head slightly bowed, nose flattened
against the glass we weren't supposed to touch,
as the fish cast his cold eye on life, on death,
and Mrs. Guest's combined Grade One and Two class.
I envisioned my great-grandfather not stopping
to eat or sleep for three days, intent on reeling in
the mother of all tyees so that one day I might
stand before it feeling as if - in a world
that has never been my home - I was someone.

I have since discovered that Sir Richard was not
my great-grandfather after all, but his older brother
(my lowlier ancestor ran sheep on Salt Spring Island.)
Nor was Sir Musgrave alone, but in a dugout canoe
paddled by native guides from Cape Mudge, before lunch.
So much for family mythology; no more high-ass Muckamuck.
I have lesser claims to fame these days, but still
when I think back over those class expeditions
and that vision I clung to as if my future
depended on it, something glorious tugs.

Welcome to Words on the Water 2010

This year's festival is the 9th time that the event has occurred in Campbell River. It is a testament to the interest, intelligence and loyalty of you, the audience, that Words on the Water continues to thrive and stimulate reading, thinking and conversation in our community. The WOW committee is proud once again, to present a thought provoking mix of current West Coast writers and invites you to listen to, discuss and escape into the richness of words that will be presented. Enjoy!

Festival Schedule of Events

All events take place at the Maritime Heritage Centre

Friday, March 19th - 7:30 pm

Master of Ceremonies *John Elson*

Words on the Water Commissioned Poem *Susan Musgrave*

Writers in Conversation

	Panel	Topic	Moderator
#1	Gabor Maté Susan Musgrave	Beyond the Dominant Culture	Michael McIvor
#2	Colin Angus Harry Thurston Ronald Wright	Going Places	John Elson

Intermission

Music by Caribi's Jazz Ensemble

#3	Annabel Lyon Kit Pearson Andreas Schroeder	Where do the words come from?	Christine Knight
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Friday night sponsored by the Scotiabank

Saturday, March 20th

MORNING

9:00 Andreas Schroeder
9:45 Gabor Maté
10:30 *Break*

10:45 Ronald Wright
11:30 Annabel Lyon

12:15 *Lunch*

AFTERNOON

1:00 Susan Musgrave
1:45 Harry Thurston
2:30 *Break*

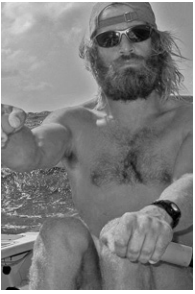
2:45 Colin Angus
3:30 Kit Pearson

EVENING

7:30 Literary
Cabaret
Featuring:

Guest Writers
and Music by
Sue Medley
The Wire Choir

Colin Angus



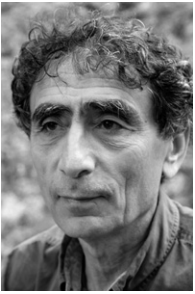
COLIN ANGUS completed the first human-powered circumnavigation of the world in 2006 when he cycled into Vancouver after 43,000 km of travel. During the course of two years he rowed across the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans, trekked and cycled through 16 countries, endured winter in Siberia and searing heat in the tropics. Colin has made a career exploring remote parts of the world and sharing his adventures through bestselling books, films and presentations. He has navigated the Amazon and Yenisey Rivers from source to sea, sailed the South Pacific Ocean, and rowed thousands of kilometres in waterways around the world. He has co-produced four documentaries which collectively won ten awards at international festivals including the Dijon and Telluride Festivals of Adventure Films. His work is published in numerous publications including *The Globe and Mail*, *Reader's Digest* and *Cruising World*. *Outside Magazine* listed Colin as one of the top 25 “bold visionaries with world changing dreams” for his work in promoting lifestyle changes to help the environment. Colin and Julie continue their efforts in promoting zero-emissions transportation as a healthy way to maintain a healthy world.

Annabel Lyon



ANNABEL LYON'S first book, the short-story collection *Oxygen*, was nominated for the Danuta Gleed and ReLit awards. Her second collection, *The Best Thing for You*, was nominated for the Ethel Wilson Prize for Fiction. Her first novel for adults is *The Golden Mean* which held the distinction of being the only book nominated last year for all three of Canada's major fiction prizes: the Scotiabank Giller Prize, the Governor General's Award for Fiction and the Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize. Of the three, she won the Rogers Prize. In addition to creative writing, Annabel Lyon has studied music, philosophy, and law. She lives in New Westminster, B.C., with her husband and two children.

Gabor Maté



GABOR MATÉ M.D. is a physician, author, seminar leader and public speaker. He is a former medical columnist for *The Vancouver Sun* and *The Globe and Mail*. His four books, all Canadian bestsellers, range in topic from Attention Deficit Disorder (*Scattered Minds*), on which he has a unique perspective; to the mind/body unity and the influence of stress in health and illness (*When The Body Says No*); to the disastrous loss of parental influence in today's culture (*Hold On To Your Kids*). The most recently published, *In the Realm of Hungry Ghosts: Close Encounters with Addiction* has been a #1 national bestseller and has been awarded the Hubert Evans Prize for literary non-fiction. For twenty years Dr. Maté had a family practice, and for seven years was Medical Coordinator of the Palliative Care Unit at Vancouver Hospital. For eleven years he has worked in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside with patients challenged by drug addiction, mental illness and HIV. In 2009 Dr. Maté was honoured with an Outstanding Alumnus Award from Simon Fraser University. His next book, to be published in 2010, will be *The Bully Syndrome: A New Look at a Contemporary Malaise*, co-written with developmental psychologist Dr. Gordon Neufeld.

Susan Musgrave



Susan Musgrave has published 25 books: she is a poet, novelist, children's writer, essayist, columnist and frequent guest on the CBC. She has been described as everything from a stand-up comedian to an eco-feminist. She lives on Vancouver Island and on the Queen Charlottes/Haida Gwaii. Susan has been nominated, and has received awards, in six different categories of writing: poetry, fiction, non-fiction, personal essay, children's writing and for her work as an editor. She wrote the lyrics to a song, "Missing," dedicated to sixty-two of the missing women on Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, which has recently been released on a CD. Proceeds from sales go to Haven Society, who provide a transition house for women and children who have suffered abuse, as well as a Victim Services/Women's Assault Programme on Vancouver Island. Her most recent novel is *Cargo of Orchids*; her most recent poetry collection is *Obituary of Light: The Sangar River Meditations*, published in 2009. *You're in Canada Now...A Memoir of Sorts* was published in the fall of 2005. Words on the Water is honoured that Susan Musgrave has agreed to write this year's commissioned poem, which appears in the program.

Kit Pearson



KIT PEARSON was born in Edmonton and grew up there and in Vancouver. She received her B.A. from the University of Alberta, her M.L.S. from the University of British Columbia and her M.A. from the Simmons College Center for the Study of Children's Literature in Boston. Her novels have been awarded the Canadian Library Association Book-of-the-year in 1987 for *A Handful of Time* and again in 1989 for *The Sky is Falling*. *Awake and Dreaming* published in 1996 won 5 awards including the Governor-General's Award and the Red Cedar Award. She has written and won awards for her historical fiction for young people including *The Lights Go on Again* in 1993. Her books have been published in Canada in English and French, in the U.S., Australia, New Zealand, Japan, the Netherlands, Germany, Great Britain, China and Korea. She has won fourteen awards for her writing, including the Vicky Metcalf Award for her body of work in 1998. Her most recent book is *A Perfect Gentle Knight* published in 2007. Kit is presenting readings to middle school students in School District 72 in this year's Student Outreach Program.

Andreas Schroeder



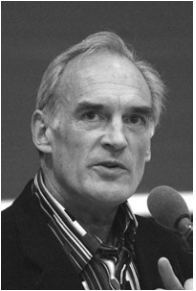
ANDREAS SCHROEDER has been writing poetry, fiction, nonfiction, translations, journalism and literary criticism for over 40 years. In addition to his 22 published books, Schroeder has also published 5 popular collections of outrageous scams and hoaxes, among them *Scams, Scandals & Skullduggery*, and *Cheats, Charlatans & Chicanery*, all of which were originally broadcast on CBC Radio's Basic Black Show where he was the "resident crookologist" for 12 years. Schroeder has won, or been nominated for, a host of literary awards, including the Governor-General's Award (nonfiction), the Sealbooks First Novel Award, the Stephen Leacock Award, the Arthur Ellis Award, and the Canadian Association of Journalists' Best Investigative Journalism Award. Since 1999 he has also held the Maclean-Hunter Chair in Creative Nonfiction in UBC's Creative Writing Department. Schroeder's most recent book is *Renovating Heaven*, a fictionalized account of his adolescent years growing up in the Fraser Valley. It was nominated in the BC Book Prize competition for the 2009 Ethel Wilson Fiction Award. Andreas is this year's Writer in the Schools presenter for the festival.

Harry Thurston



HARRY THURSTON has been a full-time writer for the last 33 years. His articles on art, culture and environment have appeared in many magazines, including *Audubon*, *Canadian Geographic*, *Equinox*, and *National Geographic*, and have garnered several national journalism awards. He is the author of twenty books of poetry and non-fiction. *A Place Between the Tides: A Naturalist's Reflections on the Salt Marsh* (Greystone Books, Vancouver) was a finalist for the inaugural British Columbia Award for Canadian Non-Fiction and winner of the Sigurd Olsen Nature Writing Award in the U.S. *A Ship Portrait: A Novella-in-Verse* (Gaspereau Press, Kentville, N.S.) was adapted for the stage in 2007. Recently, Vehicule Press (Montreal) published *Animals of My Own Kind, New and Selected Poems*. As an avid fly fisher and active conservationist, he is delighted to be serving as the Haig-Brown Writer-In-Residence.

Ronald Wright



RONALD WRIGHT is a novelist, historian and essayist and has won awards in all three genres. He has been published worldwide in sixteen languages and is the author of nine books including the 2004 CBC Massey Lectures, *A Short History of Progress*, which won the Libris Award for Non-fiction Book of the Year and is now in production as a documentary film. Wright's first novel, *A Scientific Romance*, won Britain's David Higham Prize for Fiction and was chosen as a book of the year by *The Sunday Times*, *The Globe and Mail*, and *The New York Times*. His other best sellers include *Time Among the Maya* and *Stolen Continents*, an award-winning history of the Americas since Columbus.

Wright is also a frequent contributor to the *Times Literary Supplement*, and has written and presented documentaries for radio and television on both sides of the Atlantic. His latest book, the No.1 best seller *What Is America?* was a finalist for the B.C. Book Prize.

Master Of Ceremonies



John Elson went to high school in Campbell River every day for decades before, at long last, he graduated for good in June of last year. On a family trip to Ireland his children insisted that it was unnecessary, and possibly dangerous, for him to kiss the Blarney Stone. These appear to be his primary qualifications for the position of MC at Words on the Water.

Our Musicians

Sue Medley



Every year, Words on the Water is proud to feature a local musician at Saturday evening's cabaret. This year our guest performer is Juno Award winning singer-song writer, Sue Medley. Sue's debut album went gold and she has toured with the likes of Bob Dylan, Lyle Lovett, Dwight Yoakam and John Mellencamp who says, "The girl can sing!" She is known for her aggressive and colorful performances. Billy Bob Thornton stated that, "Sue Medley has one of the greatest voices you'll ever hear." Sue is currently living back in her home-town of Comox where she continues writing, performing, teaching music and helping to develop a new generation of budding songwriters and recording artists.

Carihi Jazz Ensemble

We are pleased to have the Carihi Jazz Ensemble, under the direction of Jim Vining, playing Friday. This award winning combo is a group who like to go beyond regular big band jazz performance and learn to arrange, compose, improvise and present a standard jazz/blues repertoire. They are a busy group, performing in community functions and are currently preparing for the West Coast Jazz Festival at VIU in April.

The Wire Choir



Grahame Edwards and Grant McLellan from The Wire Choir will be providing their melodic weave on Saturday evening. Local guitar hero Grant will add his considerable harmonic inclinations to Grahame's acoustic and electric basses. Relax and enjoy their improvised tone shaping before the cabaret and during intermission.

Words on the Water Organizing Committee

Charlene Brown
Angel Murphy

Trevor McMonagle
Paul Murphy

Ruth McMonagle
Barbara Preston

Acknowledgements

Thank you to the many volunteers who help make *Words on the Water* function smoothly. You have been steadfast and perennial in your support and your expertise in running the weekend is invaluable and deeply appreciated.

Wow Student Outreach Program

An important commitment of Words on the Water is to foster an appreciation of literature in the youth in our community. Thanks to the joint sponsorship of WOW and School District #72, Andreas Schroeder and Kit Pearson will offer readings in the schools and a writing workshop to Campbell River students on Friday, March 19th.

Ann and Roderick Haig-Brown



From its inception, *Words on the Water* has taken inspiration from the lives and works of Ann and Roderick Haig-Brown. The Haig-Browns were philosophers and conservationists who carefully considered their place in the world. Roderick's writing and Ann's humanitarian work continue to influence this community. *Words on the Water* aspires to contribute to keeping their memory alive and to honour their legacy.

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