

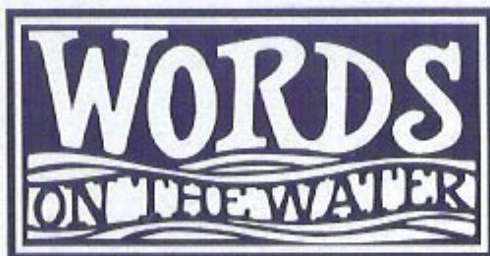
WRITERS' FESTIVAL 2004
MARCH 26TH - 28TH



Campbell River Writers' Festival Society



Campbell River - British Columbia



WELCOME TO WORDS ON THE WATER, 2004

The organizing committee of Campbell River's third annual festival for writers and readers, "Words on the Water" is proud to present this year's roster of extraordinary artists. To the writers who have come to share their work and to the

readers who have come to listen, we extend a warm welcome and our hope that you will find the experience rewarding and enjoyable.

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

(All events occur at the Maritime Heritage Centre)

Friday, March 26

- 7:30 pm Writers in Conversation, featuring two writers' panels:
- "The Importance of Place"
featuring *Caroline Adderson*, *Steven Galloway* and *Madeleine Thien*
Moderated by *Sheryl MacKay*
 - "The Devil is in the Details"
featuring *William Deverell*, *John Gould* and *Spider Robinson*
Moderated by *David Grierson*

Saturday, March 27

- 9:30 am *Steven Galloway*
- 10:45 am *Madeleine Thien*
- 12:00 pm *Diane Swanson* (presenting a free reading of children's non-fiction work, sponsored by the Vancouver Island Regional Library and the Public Library Services Branch, B.C. Ministry of Community, Aboriginal, and Women's Services)
- 1:15 pm *William Deverell*
- 2:30 pm *Caroline Adderson*
- 3:45 pm *Spider Robinson*
- 7:30 pm 'Kiltering': *Erin Robinson*
John Gould

Sunday, March 28

- 10:00 am - 3:00 pm
Writers' workshops (pre-registration only)



We're delighted to be joined this year by two of BC's most popular radio hosts, Sheryl MacKay and David Grierson. David and Sheryl invite you to be their guests Friday and Saturday morning respectively for some refreshment and a look at life from the other side of the microphone.

Sheryl MacKay



Sheryl has worked for the CBC across Canada since the early '80s and is delighted to be host of *North By Northwest*, the radio program that's all about creative people and the wonderful things they create. In addition to hosting her weekly show from the Maritime Heritage Centre on Saturday morning, Sheryl will be moderating a panel of writers on Friday evening.

These days when she's not on the air or travelling the province meeting creative British Columbians, Sheryl can be found at home by the Coquitlam River with her husband, three teenage children, and three dogs.

David Grierson



David Grierson has made a name for himself as an author, a jazz columnist, a television host and a radio personality. The creator of CBC Radio's *North by Northwest*, he went on to become the voice many of us wake up to five days a week as host of the daily morning show, *On the Island*.

A frequent juror for competitions in all fields of creative endeavour, Grierson was a charter member of the Writers' Guild of Canada, one of the founding members of the BC Chapter of the Canadian Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences, until recently sat on the board of directors of the Vancouver Folk Music Festival and for reasons which continue to elude him, you'll find him listed in Canada's Who's Who.

David will host *On the Island* live from the Maritime Heritage Centre on Friday morning and moderate a panel of writers on Friday evening.



Canada Trust

Caroline Adderson



Caroline Adderson's first book, *Bad Imaginings*, was nominated for a 1993 Governor General's Award, the 1994 Commonwealth Book Prize and won the 1994 Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize. Stories from it have appeared in fifteen anthologies and been broadcast and adapted for radio. Her first novel, *A History of Forgetting* was nominated for the 2000 Rogers' Trust Fiction Prize and the 2000 Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize. It was also published in the UK. *Sitting Practice* is her second novel and is set, in part, on Vancouver Island. She has taught writing at UBC, the Banff Centre, Booming Ground and is currently a mentor in the Writing and Publishing program at SFU.

William Deverell



After overseeing more than 1,000 cases, William Deverell shifted from defending people charged with crimes to writing adventure thrillers. He won the \$50,000 Seal First Novel Award for *Needles*. His second book, *High Crimes*, was named Book of the Year by the Periodical Distributors of Canada. In all he has written ten critically-acclaimed novels including *Mecca*, *The Dance of Shiva*, and *The Laughing Fountain*. His single non-fiction book, *Fatal Cruise – The Trial of Robert Frisbee*, was praised by Margaret Cannon in *The Globe and Mail*. "From first page to last . . . the book is as compelling as any novel."

Deverell has also written five screen plays and was the creator of the CBC TV series, *Street Legal*. His twelfth novel, *Mind Games*, was released to enthusiastic reviews last fall.



CAMPBELL RIVER DAYBREAK ROTARY

A GLOBAL NETWORK OF COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS
AND THE PROUD SPONSOR OF SATURDAY EVENING'S EVENTS

Steven Galloway



Steven Galloway was born in Vancouver, BC and raised in Kamloops. He holds a Masters degree in Creative Writing from the University of British Columbia, where he currently teaches fiction.

In addition to writing, he and his wife are involved in the running of a small winery in Langley, BC. Other interests include the restoration of player pianos, woodworking, barbecuing, and shuffle-board.

He has worked as a waiter, forest fire fighter, carpet cleaner, theatre festival manager, jeans salesman, super-absorbent paper maker and horse wrangler. Of these seven jobs Steven claims to have been fired from three!

Galloway's first novel, *Finnie Walsh*, was a finalist for the Books in Canada First Novel Award. In 2003 he published his second novel, *Ascension*. In

addition to his public appearances at the festival, Steven will be conducting a workshop for aspiring writers on Sunday, March 28. (pre-registration required)

John Gould



John Gould is the author of two collections of very short stories, *Kilter* and *The Kingdom of Heaven*. His fiction has also appeared in chapbooks, and in periodicals across the country. He publishes occasional freelance nonfiction. John studied at the innovative Integrated Studies program at the University of Waterloo, where he holds a Bachelor degree. He has worked as an environmental researcher, a tree planter and a house framer. More recently he has turned to teaching fiction, and to coordinating arts programs. He co-created and ran the otherwords program at the BC Festival of the Arts, and is now the Executive Director of the Victoria School of Writing. He serves on the Editorial Board of the Malahat Review.



WORDS ON THE WATER
IS GRATEFUL TO WALCAN FOR ITS
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Words on Water

It has become a tradition that each year Words on the Water should commission an original poem from one of the writers attending the festival. Past years have yielded works by legendary Canadian poet Patrick Lane and, in response, Poet Laureate George Bowering (facing page). This year, Words on the Water is proud to present an original poem by Erin Skye Robinsong.

The New Design

Erin Skye Robinsong

Imagine see-through skin
all the moving parts inside

It's happening.

Think mollusks. Think Batmobile.
Seal the entrances, become impenetrable
and walk the city of your own body
undisturbed

We not only possess the technology

Cells with taillights
like blinking rubies
running their cargo of air

we have already begun to implement the new design. The last thing we believe will be ourselves.

Superhighways give way to forking paths
that run with blood and electricity.
There is so much ground to cover

Science fiction and non-fiction neck and neck.
The new teeth are diamond

durable, forever.
The new smile refracts light
like little skyscrapers

We're matching the human form to the human.

All the fantastic things we build
spaceships, ice skates, and tiny music files
are the stories we tell ourselves

No longer separate from our inventions.

The fantastic things we fashion
pedal boats and fur coats
are stone tool storybooks

The new model allows for slow motion sight
so we might grasp the fullness of a footstep, a
blink.
What's to be seen is not all figure skaters falling
frame by frame. It is snow
coming down like a million-billion ice hotels.



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Words on Water

by Patrick Lane (2002)

A cursive blue above still water, a heron
drifting north, a twist of smoke I follow
as if in my solitude I could read his wings
and understand the dawn. The far
islands descend from the burning fog,
born to the fires of the first sun.
Three gulls pass over and leave their wings
in sand, gray hieroglyphs only birds
can understand. I watch an otter
play in the wrack among the maze of kelp
thrown up by storms. I have come
to read the water as it touches the moon
lost beyond the mountains of the Malahat.
The heron passes and the otter retreats
into the deep. I listen to thin cries
as gulls disappear in flames. I think like me,
the grey birds pray to the last of the gods.

by George Bowering (2003)

What lorn poet prays to gods long gone
from ocean's glistening wrack, what beach
on edge of that deep book can offer comfort
never found by parlour fire? If read he must
why reads he not indoors, from tomes endited
centuries afore, beaker full of the warm
South close to hand? But no, this wind-swept
gent ambles in the rain, shoes wet with punctu-
ation from the sea, fishing for words
in language known but to spectres lost to
memory. Send him welcome, dry yourself,
invite, come finger our shelves so proudly
stacked with words on paper. Here will gulls
keen and sea-creatures play while reader
warms his haunch beside the grate. Here
will flames read to us their living tongue,
and speak the words that viewless wings have sung.



Rodrigo



Chilean-born guitar virtuoso Rodrigo Figueroa brought a distinctive musical style to Vancouver Island when he moved to Campbell River in 1993. Rodrigo has impressed audiences with his outstanding ability to play different styles of music including Spanish, Latin, Brazilian, Blues, and North American. He has earned the privilege of playing with outstanding musicians including Sting, Chick Corea, and Pat Metheny. Words on the Water is delighted to welcome Rodrigo as part of Friday evening's entertainment.

Turning the Page

Since its opening in 1971, Page 11 Books has been close to the hearts of Campbell River readers. Margo Cormack and her band of charming accomplices at Page 11 have been tireless promoters of good writing in general and of Canadian authors in particular. She has been a one-woman literary festival for more than three decades; it's little wonder that she was so instrumental in the formation of Words on the Water. She has provided local readers with a first-rate selection of books and with the sage advice they needed to make good choices.

As sad as we are to see a fine independent book store close, Words on the Water joins Margo's many friends in wishing her great happiness in her next adventures!

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CAMPBELL RIVER COMMUNITY ARTS
COUNCIL AND THE BC ARTS COUNCIL

Diane Swanson



A nature nut, Diane Swanson spills her passion onto pages for children of all ages. She began her career by writing for magazines but now spends most of her time producing books. She has two grown children, Tim and Carolyn, whom she credits with inspiring her interest in kid lit. Now she also has two grandsons to take hunting for bugs! Author of 60 non-fiction books and recipient of many awards, Diane will be presenting a workshop for aspiring children's writers on Sunday (pre-registration only).

Diane will be presenting a free program sponsored by the Vancouver Island Regional Library, B.C. Writers in Libraries, and the Public Library Services Branch, B.C. Ministry of Community, Aboriginal, and Women's Services

Madeleine Thien



Madeleine Thien was born in Vancouver. Her short stories and essays have appeared in literary journals and anthologies, including *Best Canadian Stories*, *The Journey Prize Anthology*, *Islands West: Stories from the Coast*, and *Write Turns: New Directions in Canadian Fiction*. She has also written and recorded for CBC Radio.

Simple Recipes, her first book of fiction, won the Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize and the City of Vancouver Book Award, was a finalist for the Commonwealth Writers' Prize for Best First Book (Canada and Caribbean region), and was named a notable book by the Kiriyaama Pacific Rim Book Prize. The manuscript for this collection won the 1998 Asian Canadian Writers' Workshop's Emerging Writer Award. In 2001, Thien won the CAA Air Canada Award for most promising Canadian writer under the age of thirty.

Madeleine Thien lives in Vancouver, where she is at work on her first novel.

Tim Hortons

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Spider Robinson



Since he began writing professionally in 1972, Spider Robinson has won 3 Hugo Awards, a Nebula Award, the John W. Campbell Award for Best New Writer, the E.E. ("Doc") Smith Memorial Award (Skylark), the Pat Terry Memorial Award for Humorous Science Fiction, and Locus Awards for Best Novella and Best Critic. Twenty-four of his 29 books are still in print, in 10 languages.

Spider's most recent publications are the new novel *Callahan's Con* and the collection *God is an Iron and Other Stories*. Still in production are the novels *The Free Lunch* and *Callahan's Key*.

Spider was born in New York City on three successive days (they had to handle him in sections), and holds a Bachelors degree in English from the State University of New York. In 1992 he was the Toastmaster for the 50th World SF Convention in Orlando. He was book reviewer for *Galaxy*, *Analog* and *New Destinies* magazines for nearly a decade, and currently writes occasional book reviews and a regular Op-Ed column, "Future Tense," for *The Globe and Mail*, Canada's national newspaper.

He has been married for 28 years to Jeanne Robinson. They have lived for the last 16 years in British Columbia, where they raise and exhibit hopes.

Erin Robinsong



Erin Skye Robinsong is from Cortes Island and lives in Victoria. She won the 2001 Irving Layton Award for Poetry at Concordia University, and has a BFA in Writing from the University of Victoria. She is an interdisciplinary artist working in text and visual performance. Her most recent works include *Do Not Touch The Axe*, a dance theatre piece with filmmaker Mark Vonesch, and a series of readings with live soundscapes performed by Megan Boddy.

Her written works have been described as "a landscape punctuated by things that fall from the sky, everything from a NASA space station to pianos to pickpockets in a prayer for the inescapable gravity of the state of earth."

A hand bound limited edition of her poetry, *Ore*, was published in 2003.

Erin will be accompanied by multi-instrumentalist Megan Boddy who is from Smithers, BC. Currently a member of the group "Honeygirl," she spent three years working for Tower Records in Sacramento, California, where she was a member of the Sacramento State University Women's Choir.

Roderick Haig-Brown



From its inception, Words on the Water has taken inspiration from the life and works of Campbell River writer, Roderick Haig-Brown. The festival aspires to contribute in some small way to keeping alive his memory and honouring his legacy to our community.

“It is a rare book that changes a life; a poor one that adds nothing to it.” RHB

Words on the Water Organizing Committee

- John Elson
- Colin Gabelmann
- Robin Geary
- Craig Gillis
- Ruth McMonagle
- Trevor McMonagle
- Chris Round
- Sherry Sprungman
- Drew Williams

Friends of Words on the Water

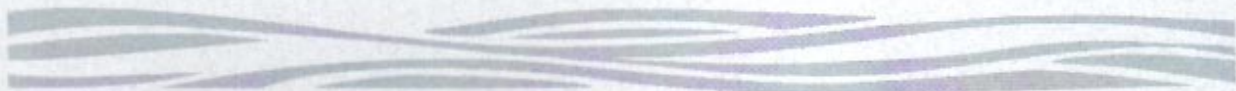
WORDS ON THE WATER SPONSORS

WOW is grateful for the financial support of the following individuals and organizations. Their generosity has made this festival possible.

- Drs. Arnold and McFadden
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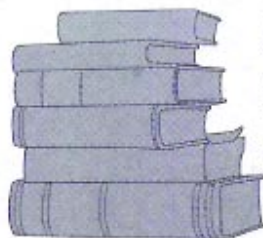
Volunteers

Our thanks also go to the many volunteers who have, in so many ways, helped keep Words On The Water afloat.



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