



Steal big, steal little

Here at Coach House Books, we run quite a nice racket, publishing and printing the finest Canadian literature we can get our purloining paws on. And we've assembled a whole new gang of books, ready for the next heist.

Last season's rap sheet was full of success stories. Books like Matthew Tierney's *The Hayflick Limit*, Carla Gunn's *Amphibian*, Anton Piatigorsky's *Eternal Hydra* and Lisa Robertson's *Magenta Soul Whip* were so good it was almost criminal. Nicole Brossard's *Fences in Breathing* stole many a reader's breath, while Sina Queyras's *Expressway* provided the perfect getaway vehicle for poetry fans. *The Mitochondrial Curiosities of Marcells 1 to 19* appealed to juvenile delinquents (delinquent only in their failure to settle for boring young adult literature), and Glenn McArthur's *A Progressive Traditionalist* attracted the interest of second-storey men and women (and all other architecture enthusiasts). Guy Maddin's hallucinatory film companion, *My Winnipeg*, robbed people of their senses. And Jeramy Dodds was shortlisted for the Griffin Poetry Prize for *Crabwise to the Hounds*, his debut poetry collection. (He had no priors.)

So, break into our fall catalogue and plunder the pages for great reads and gift ideas. There'll be no need to dine and dash when you pick up *The Edible City: Toronto's Food from Farm to Fork*; you'll want to savour every essay. You'll also want to snatch up repeat offender Cordelia Strube's darkly funny new novel, *Lemon*, and poetry collections by Susan Holbrook and Kate Hall will awaken your larcenous urges. And it would be a crime to not mention David Derry and his debut collection of short fiction, *Sentimental Exorcisms*. Christian Bök fans can take home a bag of poetic loot with a brand-new edition of *Eunoia*, and Kate Eichhorn and Heather Milne have rounded up a rogues' gallery worth of prime suspects in their groundbreaking anthology of innovative Canadian women's poetry, *Prismatic Publics*.

There's something for every burgling, bamboozling book bandit. So, take the five-finger-discount and lift this catalogue. Check out these books before you get booked yourself!

Coach House Books

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Cover illustration [*Burglars and Russian Nesting Dolls*, ink on paper, 2009, 16.5 x 22 in.]
by Tamara Garvey

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

edited by Christina Palassio and Alana Wilcox

If a city is its people, and its people are what they eat, then shouldn't food play a larger role in our dialogue about how and where we live? The food of a metropolis is essential to its character. Native plants, proximity to farmland, the locations of supermarkets, immigration, the role chefs can and should play in society – how a city nourishes itself makes a statement about the kind of city it is.

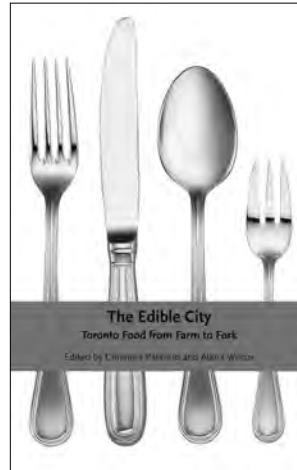
With a cornucopia of essays on comestibles, *The Edible City* considers how one city eats. It includes dishes on peaches and poverty, on processing plants and public gardens, on rats and bees and bad restaurant service, on schnitzel and school lunches. There are incisive studies of food-security policy,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

Praise for Coach House's Toronto books:

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

Featuring essays by David Alexander, Bert Archer, Steven Biggs, Kathryn Borel, Jamie Bradburn, Andrew Braithwaite, Kyle Buckley, Laura Burr (with Ilona Burkot and Jane Lac), Kate Carraway, Sasha Chapman, Matthew Church, Liz Clayton, Kevin Connolly, Brendan Cormier, Pamela Cuthbert, Hamutal Dotan, Mark Fram, Katarina Gligorijevic, Chris Hardwicke, Karen Hines, Sarah Hood, Seana Irvine, Lorraine Johnson, Iara Lessa, Charles Levkoe and Airin Stephens, John Lorinc, Joshna Maharaj, Jason McBride, Rea McNamara, Shawn Micallef, Amanda Miller, Chris Nuttall-Smith, Darren O'Donnell and Natalie De Vito, Chris Ramsaroop, Wayne Reeves, Wayne Roberts, Cecilia Rocha, Damian Rogers, Erik Rutherford, Jae Steele, Ben Stimpson, Bronwyn Underhill, RM Vaughan, Gary Wilkins, Mary Williamson and Katie Wolk.



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- promotional seed packages
- large Toronto book launch
- extensive ad campaign:
Spacing, *Geist*, *Eye Weekly*,
Broken Pencil, *Torontoist*,
TasteTO, *blogTO*

Lemon

a novel by Cordelia Strube

Lemon has three mothers: a biological one she's never met, her adopted father's suicidal ex and Drew, a school principal who hasn't left the house since she was stabbed by a student. She has one deadbeat dad, one young cancer-riddled protégé and two friends: the school tramp and a depressed poet.

Figuring the numbers are against her, Lemon just can't be bothered trying to fit in. She spurns fashion, television and even the mall. She reads Mary Wollstonecraft and gets pissed off that *Jane Eyre* is such a wimp. Meanwhile, the adults in her life are all mired in self-centredness and the other kids are getting high, pummelling each other in parks and trying to outsex one another. High school is misery, a trial run for an unhappy adulthood of bloated waistlines, bad sex, contradictions and inequities, and nothing guidance counsellor Blecher says will convince Lemon otherwise.

But making the choice to opt out of sex and violence and cancer and disappointment doesn't mean that these things don't find you. It will be up to Lemon to see if she can survive them with her usual irrepressible aplomb.

Praise for Cordelia Strube's previous books:

'Smart, eccentric prose.' – *The New York Times*

'Strube has a powerful way of dragging the reader right into her characters' heads ... The story is told with such humour and suspense that it's hard to put down ... She picks diamonds out of the ashes.' – *Globe and Mail*

'Often witty and pointedly observant in the face of pain and adversity.' – *New York Newsday*

CORDELIA STRUBE is an accomplished playwright and the author of seven novels. Her first novel, *Alex and Zee*, was shortlisted for the W. H. Smith/*Books in Canada* First Novel Award, and *Teaching Pigs to Sing* was a finalist for the Governor General's Award and a recipient of a Toronto Arts Protégé Award. Her novels *Blind Night*, *The Barking Dog* and *Planet Reese* were shortlisted for the Relit Award. Her play *Mortal* won the CBC Literary Competition and was nominated for the Prix Italia. She lives with her family in Toronto, where she teaches at Ryerson University.



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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; the glories of market analysis prove as deceptive as human connection after Trevor Spate's visit to a stripper goes awry.

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 else modest designs and grand fears.

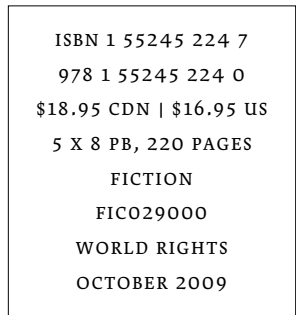
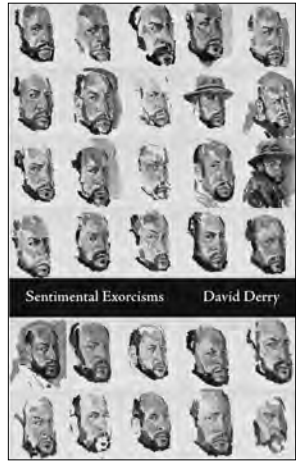
There's the English lit undergrad who abandons his essays in favour of a rigorous study of other people's sex lives, conducted with a ladder and a keen eye for open curtains. But there's also wistful Tim Pine, gentle lover of stamps, whose much more modest need – to use his home toilet bowl only – lands him in a humiliating office misadventure, to the general hilarity of his co-workers.

Desires, scapegoats, idylls and obtrusive egos: the golden calves they can't quite bear to kill. With their ramparts crumbling around them, each mounts an exuberant defence in a vacuum of self-absorption.

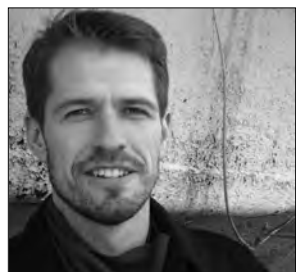
'Derry's stories are ornate, weird and delicious.'

– Annabel Lyon, author of *The Best Thing for You*

DAVID DERRY lives in Toronto. Having been seduced by farming, boat-building and chauffeuring, and having flirted with academia, he more recently discovered the insular pleasure of drafting and amending contracts, where we find him today, working as a legal assistant. Derry is a past winner of the PRISM International Short Fiction Award. *Sentimental Exorcisms* is his first book.



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Eunoia: The New 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. Directly inspired by the Oulipo (l’Ouvroir de Littérature Potentielle), a French writers’ group interested in experimenting with different forms of literary constraint, *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 original edition has already been a bestseller in Canada and, more recently, in the U.K. (where it was published by Canongate Books). The book became a phenomenon in England, appearing in the *Times*’ top ten books of 2008.

The new edition features a new cover, as well as several new but related poems by Bök.

‘The effect on the reader is galvanic.’ – *The Times* (U.K.)

‘Bök’s writing is diligent and straightforward – probably the two most underappreciated virtues of experimental artfulness ... I should also mention that *Eunoia* is simply a helluva lot of fun.’ – *American Book Review*

‘An exemplary monument for 21st-century poetry.’
– Charles Bernstein

CHRISTIAN BÖK is the author of *Crystallography*, nominated for the Gerald Lampert Memorial Award. Bök has created artificial languages for two television shows: Gene Roddenberry’s *Earth: Final Conflict* and Peter Benchley’s *Amazon*. He has earned accolades for his virtuoso sound poetry performances (particularly *The Ursonate* by Kurt Schwitters), and his conceptual artworks (which include books built out of Rubik’s cubes and Lego bricks) have appeared at the Marianne Boesky Gallery in New York. He is a Professor of English at the University of Calgary.



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Prismatic Publics: Innovative Canadian Women's Poetry and Poetics

edited by Kate Eichhorn and Heather Milne

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, Rachel Zolf.

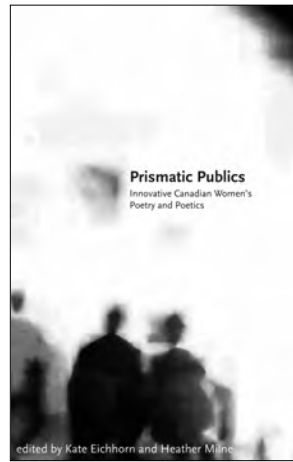
These fifteen women are some of the best writers currently engaged in avant-garde literary production, defining the contours of new movements and schools of writing in Canada. By showcasing their work alongside extensive interviews, *Prismatic Publics* stages intimate encounters with these key figures as they work in and against Language, conceptual, post-conceptual, documentary and investigative poetry traditions – often across, between and at the interstices of genres.

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.

'In this important anthology, the editors assemble a polyphonic chorus of texts and interviews by some of Canada's most lauded writers that highlights the continuing prominence of women as theorists and cultural activists in avant-garde poetic movements. The borders of gender and genre shift as these poets explore the potentials of the porous subject in their work upon systems ... Innovative poetics, stimulating dialogues, inviting active readers.' – Barbara Godard

'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.' – Carla Harryman

KATE EICHHORN is the author of *Fond*, shortlisted for the 2009 Gerald Lampert Award. She is an assistant professor of Culture and Media Studies at the New School in New York City. HEATHER MILNE is an assistant professor in the English Department at the University of Winnipeg. She is currently working on a book-length study of 21st-century innovative North American feminist poetics.



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- academic review copy mailing

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 these poems import shapes and source texts from elsewhere – home inspection reports, tampon instructions, poems by Lorca – in a series of translations, transpositions and transgressions that invite a more intimate and critical rapport with the written word.

Praise for Susan Holbrook:

'[Holbrook's] absurdity, her sense of humour, bridges the dualisms that preoccupy these poems: between what is expected and what is lived, between what is theorized and what is practised, and through what is intended and what is in the end expressed.'

– *Prairie Fire*

'Holbrook's writing is accessible without being trite, and her humour packs a political, thought-provoking punch.' – *The Georgia Straight*

'Endlessly eloquent, wry and witty, Holbrook manages to fully deconstruct her processes in each poem and sequence ...' – *Edmonton Journal*



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SUSAN HOLBROOK is a poet and fiction writer whose first book, *misled*, was shortlisted for the Pat Lowther Memorial Award and the Stephen J. Stephenson Award. Her chapbook *Good Egg Bad Seed* was published by Nomados in 2004. She teaches North American literatures and creative writing at the University of Windsor. She recently co-edited *The Letters of Gertrude Stein and Virgil Thomson: Composition as Conversation* (forthcoming from Oxford University Press, 2009).



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.

Praise for Kate Hall:

'Hall's agenda is so far beyond the tedious need to appear "creative" or "new" that she will use whatever combination of familiar language and ideas, deliberately imaginative made-up moments or scenarios, observations, personal revelations and direct statements she needs to capture experience as it unfolds. Reading Hall's poems I feel I am not so much reading about something that already happened as I am having an actual experience in real time.'

– Matthew Zapruder (*The Pajamaist*) in the *Boston Review*

KATE HALL'S poems have appeared in journals such as the *Colorado Review*, *jubilat*, *Swerve*, the *Denver Quarterly*, *Open City*, *LIT* and *Boston Review*. She has won the Irving Layton Award and the David McKeen Award and travelled on the storied Wave Books poetry bus tour in 2006. She was co-editor of the Delirium Press chapbooks and co-hosted the Departure Reading Series in Montreal, where she now lives and teaches at McGill University.



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uTOpia: Towards a New Toronto

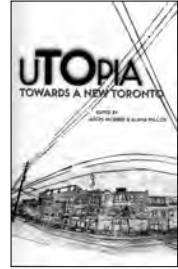
edited by Jason McBride and Alana Wilcox

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.

URBAN STUDIES • 288 PGS • NOV 2005 • ISBN 978 1 55245 156 4 • \$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, Toronto on film to photobloggers and the fine line between party and art. Includes a 16-page colour section of Toronto photobloggers' works.

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



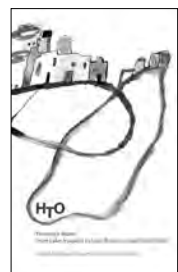
H₂O: Toronto's Water from Lake Iroquois to Lost Rivers to Low-flow Toilets

edited by Wayne Reeves and Christina Palassio

Toronto is a city dominated by water. In *H₂O*, 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



Saudade: The Possibilities of Place

travel essays by Anik See

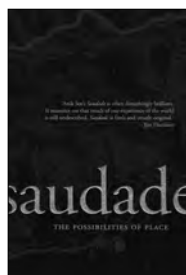
WINNER OF A 2009 ALCUIN AWARD FOR BOOK DESIGN

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, interrogating the perceived distance between privilege and want.

‘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 the Second World War. The book includes insights from many of the original architects, local practitioners from some of Toronto’s leading architecture and engineering firms, city planners, university faculty and students, 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 (1872–1945) was an anomaly among architects: a Beaux-Arts classicist who nevertheless 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.

ARCHITECTURE • 180 PGS • APR 2009 • ISBN 978 1 55245 218 2 • \$45 CDN / 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 an aquarium in his fourth-grade classroom, Phin and his best friend, Bird, are spurred to action.

'There's much more to *Amphibian* than tubthumping for the environment. Phin is a symbol of our times ... *Amphibian* is a polished, engaging book.' – *Quill & Quire*

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

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.

'This exotic, disorienting and dazzling novel ... asks grave and essential questions about time and language,' says *La Presse*.

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



The Mitochondrial Curiosities of Marcells 1 to 19

a young adult novel by Jocelyn Brown

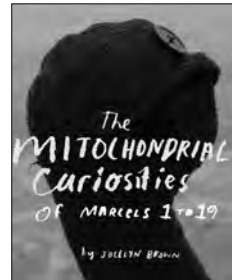
Dree is eagerly awaiting the special fund her father promised for her fifteenth birthday to help send her to Toronto's Renegade Craft Fair. But her dad has a fatal heart attack, and instead all she finds are clues that lead to the ominous Alberta Psychiatric Hospital where her parents once worked.

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.

'I stopped bookmarking favourite lines and images ... I got caught up in the story – it was too hard to slow down. This story, this voice, this vision sticks.'

– Patrick Jones, author of *Stolen Car*

YA FICTION • 150 PGS • MAY 2009 • ISBN 978 1 55245 209 7 • \$13.95 CDN / US



Girls Fall Down

a novel by Maggie Helwig

NAMED BEST TORONTO AUTHOR OF 2008 BY NOW MAGAZINE

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 photographer at the hospital whose sight is failing, witnessed the first incident. As he rushes to capture his vision of Toronto on film, he encounters an old girlfriend. And Susie-Paul 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



Stunt

a novel by Claudia Dey

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

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 a 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



Chase and Haven

a novel by Michael Blouin

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. Haven marries young and has a daughter, hoping in vain for redemption. Chase tries to battle his demons, but travels to darker and darker places. And, always, they try to keep one another afloat. *Chase and Haven* is a haunting story – inventively told and deeply felt – of suffering and love, 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



The Girls Who Saw Everything

a novel by Sean Dixon

RIGHTS SOLD IN THE US & U.K.

ONE OF QUILL & QUIRE'S TEN BEST BOOKS OF 2007

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 the maker of the 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,' 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

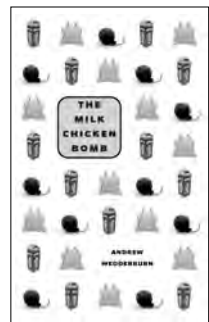
a novel by Andrew Wedderburn

SHORTLISTED FOR THE BOOKS IN CANADA/AMAZON.CA FIRST NOVEL AWARD, LONGLISTED FOR THE IMPAC DUBLIN AWARD

In small-town Alberta, there are just too many recess-time lightning strikes, Dead Kids, black-market submarines, roman-candle wars, curling bonspiels and exploding boilers for one lonely kid to get any attention. And then the adults in the kid's life start disappearing down tunnels and into rendering vats. Being ten is hard enough without all that. But the Milk Chicken Bomb should change everything. Frenetic, hilarious and gently heartrending, *The Milk Chicken Bomb* takes us inside the mind of a troubled ten-year-old.

The *Globe and Mail* calls Wedderburn's book a 'deceptively casual novel [that] closes with a heart-piercing bang.'

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



Twenty Miles

a novel by Cara Hedley

SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2008 MARGARET LAURENCE AWARD

Isabel Norris has never left the ice. Her father was a hockey legend who died before she was born, and her grandparents raised her in his skates.

When Iz leaves her grandmother behind to play for the Winnipeg University Scarlets, she struggles to fit in on this team of hard-hitting, tough-talking women with a penchant for buffets, beer bongs and raunchy humour – and a fierce loyalty to one another and to their sport. In their raucous midst, Iz can't quite find her own place in the game. In *Twenty Miles*, Iz tries to navigate the ways loss plays out on the ice, and the ways the sport both haunts and redeems the lives of the women who play it.

'Hedley writes like a dream. This kind of language never gets applied to sport ... *Twenty Miles* scores a literary hat trick,' praises NOW.

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, CATALONIA AND THE NETHERLANDS

All Tom's friends really are superheroes. There's the Ear, the Spooner, the Impossible Man. Tom even married a superhero, the Perfectionist. But at their wedding, the Perfectionist was hypnotized to believe that Tom is invisible. Nothing he does can make her see him. Six months later, she's sure that Tom has abandoned her. So she's moving to Vancouver. She'll use her superpower to make Vancouver perfect and leave all the heart-break in Toronto. With no idea Tom's beside her, she boards an airplane. Tom has until the wheels touch the ground in Vancouver to convince her he's there, or he loses her forever. A funny, sweet story, *All My Friends Are Superheroes* will remind you that the greatest superpower of all is love.

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



Pulpy and Midge

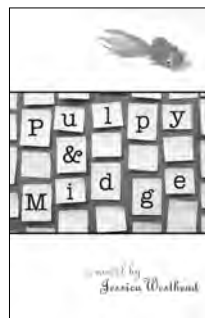
a novel by Jessica Westhead

Brian 'Pulpy' Lembeck takes life slow and steady. He likes his office job, and he likes his gentle, figurine-collecting boss, Al. He even likes the bitter receptionist, though he's the only one who does. He likes his wife, Midge, too, and their ice-dancing lessons.

But when Al retires and the tyrannical Dan takes over, Pulpy's quiet life turns upside down. He organizes potlucks and frisbee tournaments. Dan's oversexed wife, Beatrice, takes a shine to him, and Dan starts to think Midge is one hot tamale. Soon, Midge can't get rid of Dan and Beatrice, and Pulpy's job is in jeopardy. For once, Pulpy just might have to take a stand.

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

FICTION • 230 PGS • OCT 2007 • ISBN 978 1 55245 185 4 • \$19.95 CDN \$16.95 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.

Eye Weekly calls it 'an exuberant, saucy approach to the materiality of language and vice versa.'

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



Expressway

poetry by Sina Queyras

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



What Stirs

poetry by Margaret Christakos

SHORTLISTED FOR A 2009 PAT LOWTHER AWARD

What is it to feel attached and what is it to be free? Both playful and probing, *What Stirs* looks at our primal appetite for human attachment in a postmodern digital era where the tenderness of the individual is both exposed and easily masqueraded by the brazen and wary stirrings of virtual identity. In this new collection, Margaret Christakos accretes the ecstatic reach of lyric poetry, the sensual and intimate voicings of maternal domesticity, and her abiding curiosities about subjective excess and procedural poetic composition into a uniquely wakeful field of linguistic, acoustic and narrative pleasure.

The *Winnipeg Free Press* says: 'Stirring both emotionally and in a bold experimentalism.'

POETRY • 112 PGS • OCT 2008 • ISBN 978 1 55245 204 2 • \$16.95 CDN \$14.95 US



Crabwise to the Hounds

poetry by Jeramy Dodds

SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2009 GRIFFIN POETRY PRIZE

AND A 2009 GERALD LAMPERT AWARD

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



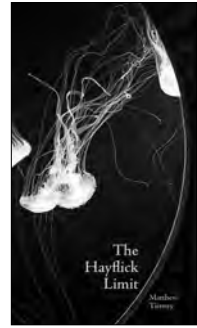
The Hayflick Limit

poetry by Matthew Tierney

The Hayflick Limit concerns itself with the boundaries of the cosmic and subatomic – how the mind contains both – and the sack-creature in the nexus: human beings. What does it mean to be an intelligent species?

Shifting focus from the limits of the telescope to the limits of the microscope, these poems place a premium on inventiveness while embracing extremes of fear, pain, cognition and time. With demotic verve and a humming line, he 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.

POETRY • 88 PGS • APRIL 2009 • ISBN 978 1 55245 217 4 • \$16.95 CDN \$14.95 US



The Laundromat Essay

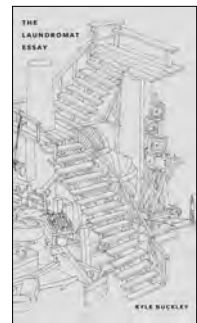
poetry by Kyle Buckley

'I know the owner of the laundromat,' begins the narrator of this extended poem, 'but can't remember his name, which could be for many reasons.' The laundromat is across the street from his apartment. The narrator is looking at it through his window but can't seem to get there to pick up his clothers. The narrative then detours as he tries to navigate a city that is fracturing around him at the same time as he confronts the failure of poetry and memory inside the labyrinthine architecture of language.

Written as a narrative essay that continuously dissects a never-finished conversation, and annotated with fragments of poems that were maybe never written about a childhood that maybe never took place, *The Laundromat Essay* is a spiralling poem about the pathology of failure and of forgetting.

'As playful as it is intellectually stringent,' marvels *Eye Weekly*.

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



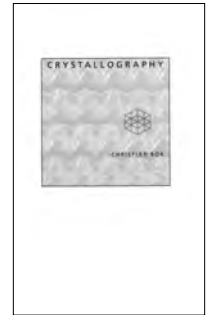
Crystallography

poetry by Christian Bök

Originally published in 1994, *Crystallography* was a gem of a book, an instant hit that was nominated for the Gerald Lampert Award. It was unavailable for an ice age, and Coach House was proud to bring it back. 'Crystallography' means the study of crystals, but also, taken literally, 'lucid writing.' The book exists in the intersection of poetry and science, exploring the relationship between language and crystals. A sparkling diamond of a book, *Crystallography* is a crystal-clear approach to the science of poetry.

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



Blert

poetry by Jordan Scott

The bright, taut, explosive poems in Jordan Scott's *Blert* represent a spelunk into the mouth of the stutterer. Through the unique symptoms of the stutterer, language becomes a rolling gait of words hidden within words, leading to different rhythms and textures, all addressed by the mouth's slight erosions.

In Scott's lexicon, to *blert* is to stutter, to disturb the breath of speaking. These experiences are often dismissed as aberrant, but in *Blert*, such fragmented milliseconds are embraced and mined as language. Scott's poems don't just discuss, they replicate the act of stuttering, the 'blort, jam and rejoice' involved in grappling with the granular texture of words.

'Scott has taken his so-called impediment and from it 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



Troubled

poetry by RM Vaughan

Troubled is the poetic account of the true story of a patient / psychiatrist relationship gone horribly wrong. With his signature mix of scathing self-analysis and volatile wordplay, RM Vaughan brazenly documents how an innocent flirtation with his therapist escalated into dangerous sexual misadventure. And when the clandestine relationship goes awry, the consequences are heart-rending and career-ending.

Troubled is brutally honest and erotically frank, a no-holds-barred confession that is itself distrustful of the language of confession.

‘Good lord, what a gorgeous and courageous book! ... [Vaughan] wields the tools of his poetry so well. The language is rich, involving and evocative. The poems crackle with emotional and ethical efficacy,’ exclaims the *Globe and Mail*.

POETRY • 80 PGS • APR 2008 • ISBN 978 1 55245 198 4 • \$16.95 CDN \$14.95 US



Human Resources

poetry by Rachel Zolf

WINNER OF THE 2008 TRILLIUM BOOK AWARD FOR POETRY

Poetry and ‘plain language’ collide in *Human Resources*, revealing the visceral and psychic cost of selling things with depleted words. As letters turn to digits, pilfered rhetorics track an economy in which poets, marketers, philosophers and coders contest meaning at the very limits of language.

Navigating the crumbling boundaries between page, screen, reader, engine, writer and database, *Human Resources* investigates wasting words and words as waste – and the creative potential of salvage.

‘In this badmouthing and incandescent burlesque, 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



Notebook of Roses and Civilization

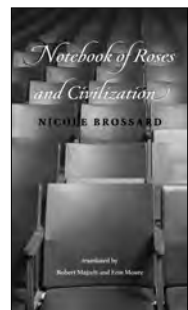
poetry by Nicole Brossard

translated by Robert Majzels and Erin Moure

SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2008 GRIFFIN POETRY PRIZE

The heat of summer on an earlobe, a parking meter, the shadow of crabs and pigeons under a cherry tree, an olive, a shoulder blade – in the poems of Nicole Brossard these concrete, quotidian things move languorously through the senses to find a place beyond language. Taken together, they create an audacious new architecture of meaning. This dexterous translation by the award-winning poets and translators Robert Majzels (*Apikoros Sleuth*) and Erin Moure (*O Cadoiro*) brings Brossard’s syntax and sensuality into English with great verve and sensitivity.

POETRY • 96 PGS • APR 2007 • ISBN 978 1 55245 181 6 • \$16.95 CDN \$14.95 US



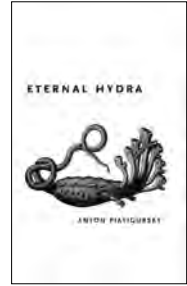
Eternal Hydra

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, hoping to secure an international audience for the book. 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, not only failing but also, unbeknownst to himself, 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. Sound familiar? Don't be so hard on yourself.

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

It's a time of passion and confusion. Virtue is barely holding down its petticoats. People are bursting their corsets with unbridled desire. The year is 1885, and the typewriter and the suffrage movement are sending things topsy-turvy. In the midst of it all, five ambitious New Women and one Newish Man struggle to find their way. 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. The book includes a rousing essay on women's suffrage by the playwright.

'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



My Winnipeg

by Guy Maddin

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 • 180 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



Practical Dreamers: Conversations with Movie Artists

by Mike Hoolboom

Welcome to the world of fringe movies, where artists have been busy putting queer shoulders to the wheels, or bending light to talk about First Nations rights (and making it funny, to boot), or demonstrating how a personality can be taken apart and put back together.

In *Practical Dreamers*, twenty-seven artists dish about how they get it done and why it matters. The conversations are personal, up close and jargon free. The stellar cast includes visionary Peter Mettler; Middle East specialist Jayce Salloum; queer Asian avatars Richard Fung, Midi Onodera, Ho Tam and Wayne Yung; First Nations vets Kent Monkman and Shelley Niro; international art presence Paulette Phillips; documentarian Donigan Cumming; and smartbomb Steve Reinke. This oversized volume comes illustrated with stills from the artists' work.

FILM STUDIES • 276 PGS • MAY 2008 • ISBN 978 1 55245 200 4 • \$29.95 CDN / US



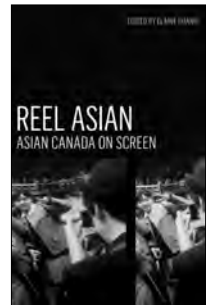
Reel Asian: Asian Canada on Screen

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.

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



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