



WRITERS FESTIVAL

OCTOBER 12 - 15, 2017



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Only those who will risk
going too far can possibly
find out how far one can go.

- T.S Eliot

Whistler epitomizes what it means to take risks. When you think about the place, you will no doubt imagine the ski hills or the biking and hiking trails. But we're also known as a center of artistic excellence. This part of our growth has come about because so many of us took a risk, created something and hoped an audience would come. And you did.

Now entering its 16th year, the ongoing challenge of organizing the Whistler Writers Festival is to produce a program that will appeal to as broad and inclusive an audience as possible while keeping our events intimate and accessible. To this end, we take your feedback each year and incorporate it to create what you've come to enjoy. And I'm so glad you do enjoy it, but know that we, the organizers, are in the back holding our breath, biting our nails, hoping everything will unfold as we had planned, because no matter how much you plan and obsess, organizing anything of the festival's scale is risky business.

For writers, the risk is in choosing such a profession which undoubtedly means long hours toiling alone to figure out what story to tell and how to do it. Some of our invited authors have written about immigration, refugees, war, our environment, love, hate and a whole kaleidoscope of other risky subjects. Some have chosen to tell their stories through fiction, others through non-fiction accounts, and still others through poetry. All these elements come together under our theme this year, which is **risk**.

Thursday October 12th will feature Comedy Quickies, a night of bite-sized comedy that takes writers' humorous humdingers to the stage. Cash and prizes will be awarded for Best Comedy Writing, and our audience will choose the Best Act.

On Friday night our Chefs' Reception will feature **Caren McSherry**, cookbook author and owner of the Gourmet Warehouse, local chef, **Leah Garrad-Cole**, author of *It all Begins with Food*, and **Ben Greenberg**, of Night Owl Brewing. There will be samples of appetizers and beer to try and you'll be able to meet these authors and hear them discuss their featured recipes and books. The Literary Cabaret will follow the Reception. Hosted by local scribe and musician **Stephen Vogler**, the night combines readings from some of Canada's best-loved authors, accompanied by live music. This year's cabaret features **David Chariandy**, **Leanne Dunin**, **Terry Fallis**, **Steven Heighon**, **Helen Humphreys**, **Grant Lawrence**, **Suzette Mayr**, **Sandra Ridley**, **Mark Leiren-Young**, and **Terry Watada**. The winners of the **Whistler Independent Book Awards** will be announced just before the Literary Cabaret.

Our popular Saturday reading events are back, each featuring authors of different genres: Poetry, Non-Fiction and Fiction. In addition, we've added two literary salons this year for book clubs and will encourage you to read our feature authors' books because the authors will be attending the salons. Our first salon on Friday October 13th will feature **Frances Itani**'s book, *That's My Baby*. Our Saturday book salon will feature the Globe and Mail's **Doug Saunders** and his book, *Maximum Canada: Why 35 Million Canadians Aren't Enough*. Our Saturday Crime Writers Lunch reading, moderated by our very own **Feet Banks**, will host authors **John MacLachlan Gray**, **Sheena Kamal**, **Michael Redhill**, **Alisa Smith** and **Jenny D. Williams**.

WELCOME

On Saturday night, a special main stage event will see CBC's **Grant Lawrence** in conversation with the Globe and Mail's **Doug Saunders**, **Leslie Anthony**, **Claudia Casper** and **Gurjinder Basran**. **Doug Saunders** will join us again on Sunday, October 15th to host our Sunday brunch and discussion with award winning authors **Barbara Gowdy**, **Monia Mazigh**, **Frances Itani**, **Michael Harris** and **Lee Maracle**. For the early risers and those who like a rousing walk in the morning, Grant will host a walk and reading with **Terry Fallis**, **Shelley O'Callaghan**, and **Mark Leiren-Young**.

Friday features a full day of publishing sessions. Join us for a workshop about publishing alternatives. This will be followed by a discussion with publishers about the industry's challenges. The afternoon will offer an opportunity to sit down one-on-one with a publisher to hone your pitching skills. Eight publishers will participate in this event and together they represent all genres.

This growing festival is a labour of love for so many: the volunteers who persevere and support it tirelessly; the community that has rallied around it; and the participants who come year after year. Thank you for taking a risk on us.

Welcome to Whistler and to our festival.

Stella Harvey,
Festival Director

Discover Great Stories at the Whistler Writers Festival



Speakeasy

ALISA SMITH

"[a] gripping tale of Prohibition gangsters and wartime code-breakers ..."
—Brian Payton



Take Us to Your Chief

AND OTHER STORIES
DREW HAYDEN TAYLOR

"... serious politics and good fun ..."
—Publishers Weekly



The White Angel

JOHN MACLACHLAN GRAY

"... immerses the reader in a brilliantly detailed historical dystopia ..."
—William Gibson



Dirty Windshields

THE BEST AND THE WORST OF THE SMUGGLERS TOUR DIARIES
GRANT LAWRENCE

"Pure teenage rawk angst!"
—Nardwuar



Only in Whistler

TALES OF A MOUNTAIN TOWN
STEPHEN VOGLER

"... a lively look at the community's party-hard cast of characters ..."
—The Province



Douglas & McIntyre
www.douglas-mcintyre.com

Meet the authors at the 2017 Whistler Writers Festival

See program for the event details



www.harbourpublishing.com

OUR PROGRAMS



Rafal Gerszak

WRITER IN RESIDENCE PROGRAM WITH CAROLINE ADDERSON

Caroline Adderson will take up residence in Whistler this fall as the community's official Writer-in-Residence. Caroline will work with writers on their own projects, starting in mid-September with a potluck get-together and introductory meeting. Residency participants will receive four one-on-one sessions with Caroline to develop their manuscript, and will attend group seminars on various aspects of the writing craft. The residency forms the manuscript-intensive component of the Whistler Writers Festival. This program is made available through the support of the Resort Municipality of Whistler, Community Enrichment Program and the Canada Council Author Residency Program. Novice, emerging and experienced writers of all genres interested in taking part in the residency should send an expression of interest to Stella Harvey at Writers@WhistlerWritersFest.com



AUTHORS IN THE SCHOOLS PROGRAM

Schools from Squamish, Whistler, Pemberton, and Mount Currie are given class sets of featured authors' books from a pool of award-winning local, First Nations and Canadian writers. The authors then give presentations and have discussions with the students, to inspire them to write, and tell their own stories. Genres have encompassed fiction, non-fiction, short stories, poetry, picture books and graphic novels. We are honoured to have hosted guest authors Joseph Boyden, Patti Laboucane-Benson, Katherine Fawcett, Stella Harvey, Sara Leach, Kelly Mellings, Lisa Moore, Sue Oakey Baker, Kenneth Oppel, Katherena Vermette, Richard Wagamese, and Eric Walters. This year authors Cary Fagan, Sara Leach, Susin Nielsen, and Drew Hayden Taylor will visit students in Sea to Sky schools. Over 800 students from Kindergarten to Grade 12 participate in the program each year, and we are grateful for the funding support of the Whistler Blackcomb Foundation, the B.C. Arts Council, The Province of British Columbia, Rotary Club of Whistler Millennial, Community Foundation of Whistler and the Whistler Writing Society.

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STUDIES

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The Writer's Studio

Vancouver program starts January 2018



Application deadline October 31

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sfu.ca/creative-writing



SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

			9AM	10AM	11AM	NOON	1PM	2PM	3PM	4PM	5PM	6PM	7PM	8PM	9PM		
THUR.	Various Locations					NOON - 1:30 PM pg. 10 Summit Lodge W1: TALES FROM THE TRENCHES LUNCH			2 - 4 PM pg. 10 Summit Lodge W2: WORKSHOP 2: OUT OF THE ATTIC: ENGAGING YOUR AUDIENCE				6 - 7:30 PM pg. 10 Whistler Public Library R1: 2017 CANADA'S BEST INDEPENDENT AUTHORS			8 - 10 PM pg. 10 Maury Young Arts Centre R2: COMEDY QUICKIES	
FRIDAY	Fairmont Chateau Whistler		9 - 11 AM pg. 10 W3: PUBLISHING ALTERNATIVES		11 AM - 12:15 PM pg. 10 W4: PANEL DISCUSSION: PUBLISHERS ROUNDTABLE			1:15 - 4:30 PM pg. 11 W5: SPEED DATING: PITCH YOUR BOOK/IDEA TO PUBLISHERS AND EDITORS		4 - 5:30 PM pg. 11 W6: 50 IS THE NEW WRITER							
											4 - 5:30 PM pg. 11 R3: BOOKLOVERS' WORKSHOP & LITERARY SALON I						
	Various Locations												6:15 - 7:30 PM pg. 11 Audain Art Museum R4: TASTING THE DIVINE: COOKS WITH BOOKS			8 PM pg. 11 Maury Young Arts Centre R5: LITERARY CABARET	
SATURDAY	Fairmont Chateau Whistler	8:30 - 10:30 AM pg. 12 W7: AWAKENING YOUR INNER TEEN (NOVELS FOR YOUTH)		COFFEE BREAK Refreshments available	11 AM - 1 PM pg. 12 W9: ENGAGING PEOPLE WITH PLACE THROUGH BIOGRAPHY				2:30 - 4:30 PM pg. 13 W11: WRITING AS RE-ENACTION: PROSE THAT ENGAGES THE SENSES								
		8:30 - 10:30 AM pg. 12 W8: MEMOIRABILIA			11 AM - 1 PM pg. 13 W10: SONG WRITING WITH SHARI ULRICH				2:30 - 4:30 PM pg. 13 W12: SO, YOU WANT TO BE A SCREENWRITER?								
			10 - 11:30 AM pg. 12 R6: WRITERS OF FICTION		11:30 AM - 1 PM pg. 13 R8: SPEAKING OUR SILENCE – THE POETRY OF COURAGE		1 - 2:15 PM pg. 13 R9: CRIME WRITERS' LUNCH				3 - 4:30 PM pg. 14 R10: WRITERS OF NON-FICTION		4:30 - 6 PM pg. 14 R12: THE BOOKLOVERS' WORKSHOP & LITERARY SALON II			8 PM pg. 14 R13: WHEN REALITY LOOKS LIKE FICTION, HOW DO YOU WRITE YOUR WAY TO THE TRUTH?	
	Whistler Public Library					11 AM - 12:15 PM pg. 12 R7: THE PLACES CHILDREN'S AND YA LITERATURE DARES TO GO				2:30 - 4 PM pg. 13 W13: WRITING WORKSHOP FOR YOUNG WRITERS		4 -5 PM pg. 14 R11: BOOK LAUNCH - THE KAWAI SCROLLS					
SUNDAY	Fairmont Chateau Whistler		9 - 10 AM pg. 15 R14: A WALK TO LOST LAKE AND BACK			11 AM - 1 PM pg. 15 R15: DOUG SAUNDERS IN CONVERSATION (INCLUDES BRUNCH)										<div><div></div><div>R</div>READING EVENTS</div> <div><div></div><div>W</div>WORKSHOPS</div>	

WHISTLER INDEPENDENT BOOK AWARDS

Recognizing excellence in independent publishing

The Whistler Independent Book Awards are open to Canadian authors who have independently published a book or books in the last five years. Authors from across Canada have submitted titles, making the awards a genuinely national affair.

Jointly produced by the Whistler Writing Society, Vivalogue Publishing and Canadian Authors-Metro Vancouver, the Whistler Independent Book Awards signal the evolution of independent publishing. While the industry has grown dramatically in the last decade, there have been no juried Canadian awards recognizing exceptional quality in these titles—until now.



Vivalogue was founded in 2010 to provide professional publishing, editorial and design services to independent authors in both print and electronic formats.



The Metro Vancouver chapter of the Canadian Authors Association offers aspiring, emerging, and professional writers opportunities and resources to hone their writing and business skills, network with others, and thrive in a community of like-minded professionals.



Established in 1912, Island Blue Printorium Bookworks is a leading Canadian digital book printer and a proud sponsor of the Whistler Independent Book Prize awarded to the best manuscript of 2017.



Behind the Book provides guidance and direction to self-publishing authors, drawing upon more than 25 years of experience in the publishing industry.

Judges

Nominees Selecting the shortlist from all the submissions received was the responsibility of Vivalogue Publishing with the assistance of Behind the Book. Each author not chosen as a Nominee received a detailed assessment of their work, ensuring that all writers benefited from participating in the competition.

Finalists Nominees were judged by members of Canadian Authors-Metro Vancouver. Judges evaluated the Nominees according to four criteria: Ideas/Organization/Content, Style/Voice, Word Choice/Sentence Fluency and Conventions/Production Values. The CAA's detailed scoring rubric determined the three finalists in the two categories, fiction and non-fiction.

Winners Two distinguished judges for each category made the final selection of the winners, to be announced at the Whistler Writers Festival Literary Cabaret on Friday, October 13.

Fiction

GAIL ANDERSON-DARGATZ's novels have been published worldwide in English and in many other languages. Her international bestsellers, *The Cure for Death by Lightning* and *A Recipe for Bees*, were both finalists for the prestigious Giller Prize. Her latest novel, *The Spawning Grounds*, has been nominated for the OLA Evergreen Award.

DARCIE FRIESEN HOSSACK is a graduate of the Humber School for Writers and, for eleven years, wrote a food memoir for various western Canadian newspapers. Her short story collection, *Mennonites Don't Dance*, was shortlisted for the 2011 Commonwealth Writers Prize.

Non-Fiction

JJ LEE is a well-known author, journalist and broadcaster. His debut book, *The Measure of a Man: The Story of a Father, a Son, and a Suit*, was a finalist for the Governor General's Literary Award.

SUE OAKY BAKER is a teacher, guide, painter and writer who holds degrees in French Literature and Language Education. Her memoir, *Finding Jim*, was published in 2013 by Rocky Mountain Books.



ANNIE DAYLON (Fiction)

Of Sea and Seed: The Kerrigan Chronicles, Book 1

After thirty years of teaching, Annie Daylon delved into her passion for writing. Annie has written four novels and forty short stories. Her work has appeared in literary magazines and anthologies in Canada and the US. Annie lives in the British Columbia Fraser Valley, with her husband, David, and their dog, CoCo.



R.L. PRENDERGAST (Fiction)

The Confessions of Socrates

R. L. (Rod) Prendergast's first novel, *The Impact of a Single Event*, became a bestseller in Canada. *The Confessions of Socrates* is his third novel and fourth book. It has been shortlisted or selected as a finalist for several independent publishing awards including the 2017 Whistler Independent Book Award for Fiction.



FARIDA SOMJEE (Fiction)

The Beggar's Dance

Farida Somjee was born in Tanzania. She grew up in the coastal city of Dar es Salaam. Many of her childhood memories resonate with her and come across in her writing. She moved to Canada in her late teens with twenty dollars in her pocket, a lot of dreams and God on her side. She lives in Vancouver, British Columbia, with her husband and son.

WINNER OF THE WHISTLER INDEPENDENT BOOK PRIZE



LOUIS DRUEHL

The Kawai Scrolls

Louis Druehl is the editor of *The New Bamfielder* and Professor Emeritus at Simon Fraser University where he taught and researched kelp for 36 years. His bestseller, *Pacific Seaweeds*, introduced thousands to these little-appreciated plants. Louis continues a 40-year relationship with Japanese seaweed researchers. *The Kawai Scrolls* is his second novel.

Join us for the launch of *The Kawai Scrolls* on Saturday, October 14 from 4–5 pm at the Whistler Public Library.

FINALISTS 2017



MONIQUE LAYTON (Non-Fiction)

Notes from Elsewhere: Travel and Other Matters

An anthropologist by training, Monique Layton has studied in Morocco, France, Great Britain, and Canada, and has published works on literature, folklore, and education. Her more recent books are *The New Arcadia: Tahiti's Cursed Myth* (2015) and *Life at Sea: From Caravels to Cruise Ships* (2017). She lives with John in Vancouver, BC.



PATRICIA SANDBERG (Non-Fiction)

Sun Dogs and Yellowcake: Gunnar Mines—A Canadian Story

After retiring as a mining and securities lawyer, Patricia Sandberg relied on her family's history and interviews with over 150 people to write about the Cold War uranium mining town on Lake Athabasca that residents said was "the best place they ever lived." She is now working on a novel.



PAUL SHORE (Non-fiction)

Uncorked: My Year in Provence

Paul Shore is an author and technology industry veteran, who has worked around the globe. Paul's constant drive to embrace new challenges has seen him involved in a variety of pursuits over time. He has also regularly dedicated energy to volunteerism, while living in Whistler with his wife and children.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

If you have written a manuscript, either fiction or non-fiction, submissions for the 2018 Whistler Independent Book Prize open **January 3, 2018**. Enter to win a prize package that includes publication and a book launch at the 2018 Whistler Writers Festival.

If you have independently published a book, either fiction or non-fiction, within the last five years, submissions for the 2018 Whistler Independent Book Awards open on **March 1, 2018**. Enter to win a prize package that includes participation in the Whistler Writers Festival.

Details are available at www.vivalogue.com.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12

 **WORKSHOP 1:**
Tales from the Trenches Lunch
Noon – 1:30 p.m. | Summit Lodge
\$50 including Lunch
Sponsored by: Printorium Bookworks

Bring your questions and your appetite to this informal round-table discussion of modern publishing realities. A panel of successful fiction and non-fiction authors, both independently and traditionally published, will share tips and tricks from their own experience. Learn what has worked best for others and what pitfalls to avoid. Featuring: non-fiction/self-published - Margo Bates and Miji Campbell, fiction/trade-published - JJ Lee, non-fiction/trade-published - Shelley O’Callaghan and the winner of the Whistler Book Prize manuscript contest - Louis Druehl.
Moderator: Lynn Duncan

 **WORKSHOP 2:**
Out of the Attic: Engaging Your Audience
2 - 4 p.m. | Summit Lodge | \$32

How do you establish yourself as a successful author in today’s crowded marketplace? How do you connect with prospective readers? This hands-on workshop will help you position your book, create opportunities to meet readers and establish the emotional connection necessary to generate sales. Participants are asked to bring their book or manuscript with them.
Moderator: J. J. Lee

 **The Workshop Series is sponsored by The American Friends of Whistler.**

 **READING EVENT 1:**
Canada’s Best Independent Authors of 2017
6 - 7:30 p.m. | Whistler Public Library
FREE

Accomplished writers are increasingly turning to independent publishing as a financially and creatively satisfying alternative to the traditional model. Meet some of the best independent authors in the country as finalists for the Whistler Independent Book Awards, and hear them read from books nominated in fiction and non-fiction categories. Winners will be announced at Friday night’s Literary Cabaret.
Moderator: Lynn Duncan



 **READING EVENT 2:**
Comedy Quickies
8 - 10 p.m. | Maury Young Arts Centre
\$22

Part writing-contest, part irreverent variety show, Comedy Quickies features bite-sized sketch, stand-up, songs and monologues in a competition to see who can make us laugh the most. Cash and prizes are awarded for Best Comedy Writing, and the People’s Choice award for Best Act—chosen by you!
Moderators: Brandon Barrett and Ira Pettie

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13

 **WORKSHOP 3:**
Publishing Alternatives
With Caitlin Press and Vivalogue Publishing
9 - 11 a.m.
Fairmont Chateau Whistler | \$32

Caitlin Press will present a brief overview of trade publishing in Canada. Topics will include shaping a manuscript for publication, finding the right publisher, preparing the perfect pitch and what to expect from a trade publisher. Vivalogue will provide a similar overview of the independent publishing industry. The presentations will be followed by a robust Q&A session.
Moderators: Vici Johnstone and Lynn Duncan

 **WORKSHOP 4:**
Panel Discussion: Publishers Roundtable Discussion
11 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.
Fairmont Chateau Whistler | \$22


We invite seven Canadian publishers Lynn Henry (Penguin Random House), Karen Haughian (Signature Editions), Taryn Boyd (Touchwood), Vici Johnstone (Caitlin Press), Don Gorman (Rocky Mountain Books), Suzanne Sutherland (Harper Collins) and Anita Chong (McClelland & Stewart) to review the state of the industry, and give sage advice on how to get your book published.
Moderator: Claudia Casper

 **WORKSHOP 5:**
Speed Dating: Pitch your Book/Idea to Publishers and Editors
1:15 - 4:30 p.m. (with 20 min break)
Fairmont Chateau Whistler | \$50
Sponsored by: Marquis Book Printing

Get smack-dab in front of publishing decision-makers for 15 minutes to pitch your book or story idea one-on-one and receive feedback. Don’t have a book to pitch? Take this opportunity to ask questions about what the publishers are looking for. Come prepared with a 5 minute pitch and/or questions for the publishers and editors. Meet Lynn Henry (Penguin Random House), Karen Haughian (Signature Editions), Taryn Boyd (Touchwood), Vici Johnstone (Caitlin Press), Don Gorman (Rocky Mountain Books), Suzanne Sutherland (Harper Collins), Anita Chong (McClelland & Stewart). The session includes up to two pitches on a first-come, first choice basis.

 **READING EVENT 3:**
The Booklovers’ Workshop & Literary Salon I
4 - 5:30 p.m.
Fairmont Chateau Whistler | \$20

Caroline Adderson will lead an invigorating conversation with best-selling author Frances Itani on how to get the most out of a book discussion. Participants and book clubs are encouraged to read Itani’s latest book *That’s My Baby*, to fully engage in dialogue and discussion. Visit your local bookseller (we’re a huge fan of indie bookstore Armchair Books in Whistler) or online stores to get your copy. This session includes a glass of wine to sip during this stirring literary salon. **Moderator:** Caroline Adderson

 **WORKSHOP 6:**
50 Is the New Writer
With Lenore Rowntree
4 - 5:30 p.m.
Fairmont Chateau Whistler | \$32

Have you been writing alone in obscurity for years? Do you think everyone else but you knows how to push forward? Ever thought maybe you should give up now because you’re not young enough anymore to be considered the next wunderkind of the publishing world? This workshop will show you how to initiate, keep going, rejig if need be, and do it with fire.

 **READING EVENT 4:**
Tasting the Divine: Cooks With Books
A chefs’ reception and book signing with Caren McSherry, and Leah Garrad-Cole.
6:15 - 7:30 p.m.
Audain Art Museum | \$22
Sponsored by: Night Owl Brewing


Meet chefs Caren McSherry, cookbook author and owner of The Gourmet Warehouse, and local entrepreneur Leah Garrad-Cole, author of her cookbook, *It all Begins with Food* at this social foodie event where the chefs dish about their books, and you enjoy delicious appetizers from each of their cookbooks. Discover new recipes, pick up a cookbook, and enjoy a glass of wine or beer.
Night Owl Brewing, a small batch beer company focused on making a rotating selection of fresh IPAs, fruit beers & experimental brews, will be suggesting perfect pairings with the chefs’ creations.



 **READING EVENT 5:**
Literary Cabaret
8 p.m. | Maury Young Arts Centre | \$22
Sponsored by: Vivalogue

Local musicians provide a vibrant and improvisational accompaniment to our guest authors as they read and perform from their masterworks. Featuring authors David Chariandy, Leanne Dunic, Terry Fallis, Steven Heighton, Helen Humphreys, Grant Lawrence, Mark Leiren-Young, Suzette Mayr, Sandra Ridley, Terry Watada. The winners of the Fiction and Non-Fiction categories of the Whistler Independent Book Awards will also be announced. This year’s Literary Cabaret features four talented musicians from Vancouver, Whistler and the Sea-to-Sky. Vancouver’s Geeta Das takes on the role of musical director along with trumpet, saxophone and percussion. Pemberton’s Rosalind Steel on grand piano and electric keys. And from Whistler, Rajan Das on upright bass, and Dean Feser on percussion.
Moderator: Stephen Vogler


SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14

 **WORKSHOP 7:**
Awakening Your Inner Teen
Novels for youth with Susin Nielsen
8:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Fairmont Chateau Whistler | \$32
Sponsored by: Vision Pacific

The juvenile fiction market is booming, and more and more books are crossover hits that appeal to adults as well. But writing well for tweens and teens means being able to create realistic, believable young characters. We'll look at the differences and similarities between writing for youth vs. writing for adults, and we'll have some fun trying to rediscover our teenage selves – for better and worse. We'll do exercises to help you tap into some of those emotional memories, and help you take the first steps toward conjuring an authentic, flawed, and relatable young protagonist.

 **WORKSHOP 8:**
Memoirabilia
With Miji Campbell
8:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Fairmont Chateau Whistler | \$32

This memoir workshop invites you to explore the possibilities and power in your own writing. You will be given suggestions to create a story, along with tips and tools to tell it in a meaningful way. No writing experience required, only life experience. Please bring a memento – object, photograph, artifact – that reminds you of a moment in your life. Workshop led by Miji Campbell, author of *Separation Anxiety: A Coming of Middle Age Story*.

 **READING EVENT 6:**
Writers of Fiction
Lenore Rowntree, Jane Eaton Hamilton, Jim Nason and Joan B. Flood
10 - 11:30 a.m.
Fairmont Chateau Whistler | \$15

Lenore Rowntree, Jane Eaton Hamilton, Jim Nason, and Joan B. Flood and the fiction winner of the Whistler Independent Book Prize. Author Claudia Casper explores the essential elements of fiction through our guest authors' stories. They involve an only child struggling to emerge from his mother's bipolar disorder; the complexities of contemporary queer love; how a veterinarian's life choices, at times, contradict her alleged love of children and animals; and a family drama set in Ireland in which decisions and mistakes echo through generations.
Moderator: Claudia Casper

 **READING EVENT 7:**
The Places Children's and YA Literature Dares to Go
Susin Nielsen, Sara Leach, Cary Fagan and Drew Hayden Taylor
11 a.m. 12:15 p.m.
Whistler Public Library | FREE
Sponsored by: The Grocery Store

Publishing trends are leaning towards diverse voices, fresh setups, and unique people, places and events. How do you create a voice that mesmerizes, or find inventive ways of telling a story? Award-winning authors Cary Fagan (*Mort Ziff Is Not Dead*), Drew Hayden Taylor (*Take Us to Your Chief*), Sara Leach (*Slug Days*), and Susin Nielsen (*Optimists Die First*) will read from their work and discuss the shifting landscape of YA & Children's Literature.
Moderator: Caroline Adderson


 **WORKSHOP 9:**
Engaging People with Place through Biography
Some practical and philosophical tips with Briony Penn
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Fairmont Chateau Whistler | \$32
Sponsored by: BDO

This workshop is for non-fiction writers (especially in science and environment), interested in biography as a novel way to engage and inspire. Briony Penn is an award-winning writer/journalist on natural history and environment issues on the coast. After 30 years of using more conventional genres, she's moved to biography to deepen the stories for new audiences and new insights. Telling the story of change through the lives of people with close relationships to the land also strengthens our historical understanding. Writers in this session will get tips on how to do research especially interviews; how to stay organized; how to structure the story; when to use facts and when to use creative non-fiction; how to document sources; when to use footnotes/endnotes; how to source photos, get permissions, and observe protocols; how to avoid inaccuracies and most importantly how to use natural history to enhance our human stories.




 **WORKSHOP 10:**
Song writing
With Shari Ulrich
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Fairmont Chateau Whistler | \$32

Workshop participants are encouraged to bring a song to share, either self-accompanied, recorded onto CD, or lyrics. This provides an invaluable vehicle for discussing the wide range of elements that serve to make a song effective - the shape of the story, rhyme, melody, phrasing, etc. You don't need to be a songwriter to attend. For those who do write lyrics or songs it is a wonderful opportunity to share your work and get feedback from a professional songwriter in a safe and comfortable setting. Please bring a copy of your lyrics with you. A guitar, piano, and CD player will be provided for those sharing songs, and Shari will perform some of her own work for discussion purposes as well.

 **READING EVENT 8:**
Speaking Our Silence – The Poetry of Courage
Roo Borson, Kevin Connolly, Sandra Ridley and Suzannah Showler
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Fairmont Chateau Whistler | \$15

Life's most meaningful experiences can leave us tongue-tied. But the inexpressible can also transform us. Poets Roo Borson (*Cardinal in the Eastern White Cedar*), Kevin Connolly (*Xiphoid Process*), Sandra Ridley (*Silvija*), and Suzannah Showler (*Thing Is*) investigate questions almost impossible to describe and bravely take us to the edge of language.
Moderator: Mary MacDonald

 **READING EVENT 9:**
Crime Writers Lunch
John MacLachlan Gray, Sheena Kamal, Michael Redhill, Alisa Smith and Jenny D. Williams.
1 - 2:15 p.m. | Fairmont Chateau Whistler
\$32 includes lunch
Sponsored by: Stonebridge at Whistler

Feet Banks steals us away through the deceptive twists and turns of the crime, mystery and thriller genres. Join us for stories that explore: true crime through a literary lens; a desperate search for a vulnerable daughter given up for adoption; a woman's fears for her sanity, and then her life, when she learns her doppelganger has appeared in a local park; the anguish of a codebreaker hiding an outlaw past; and a search undertaken by two women from different worlds when their loved ones go missing in Uganda.
Moderator: Feet Banks

 **WORKSHOP 11:**
Writing as Re-enaction: Prose that Engages the Senses
With Steven Heighton
2:30 - 4:30 p.m.
Fairmont Chateau Whistler | \$32

Writing as re-enaction is a crucial, if largely invisible technique that good poets use, but it can be vitally important to prose writers as well. It allows them to create sentences or passages of great vividness and sensual intensity. To work re-enactively is to embody—in the full sensual meaning of that word—whatever you're writing about, rather than just describing it. During this two hour seminar, we'll discuss re-enactive techniques, after which participants will write some sentences or paragraphs, then read them to the group, while responding to others' compositions.

 **WORKSHOP 12:**
So, You Want to be a Screenwriter?
With Michael Baser
2:30 - 4:30 p.m.
Fairmont Chateau Whistler | \$32
Sponsored by: Rogers Group Financial

What are the basics of screenwriting story structure? How do you create compelling characters? Is your idea a television series or a movie? With new cable channels, streaming services, satellite networks and original programing for the internet, in addition to the increasing opportunities for international co-productions, there's never been a better time to consider a career as a screenwriter. Join us to discover if your idea could be the next game-changer.

 **WORKSHOP 13:**
Writing Workshop for Young Writers
With Susin Nielsen
(must be under 19 to attend)
2:30 - 4 p.m.
Whistler Public Library | FREE

In this hour and a half long session, Susin will talk about how she became a writer, and do a short reading from one of her novels to open up a discussion on character and beginnings. She will then get participants to work in small groups to create their own unique protagonists, and, if there is time, put that protagonist into an original opening chapter.

EVENTS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14 CONTINUED

 **READING EVENT 10:**
Writers of Non-Fiction
3 - 4:30 p.m.
Fairmont Chateau Whistler | \$15

A festival favourite, this event showcases the diversity that is non-fiction writing, from memoir to biography, investigative reporting to creative non-fiction. Panel and audience discussion will centre around readings, and the process and approach to bringing particular subject matter and experiences to life. Featuring: Shelley O’Callaghan (*How Deep is the Lake: A Century at Chilliwack Lake*), Teva Harrison (*In-Between Days*), Briony Penn (*The Real Thing: The Natural History of Ian McTaggart Cowan*) and Yvonne Blomer (*Sugar Ride: Cycling from Hanoi to Kuala Lumpur*) and the non-fiction winner of the Whistler Independent Book Prize. **Moderator:** Leslie Anthony




 **READING EVENT 12:**
The Booklovers’ Workshop & Literary Salon II
4:30 - 6 p.m.
Fairmont Chateau Whistler | \$20

The Literary Salon is designed especially for book lovers and book clubs who crave frank and enlightening discussion about reading. JJ Lee will lead a provocative conversation with author Doug Saunders, on how to get the most out of a book discussion. Participants and book clubs are encouraged to read Saunders’s latest book *Maximum Canada: Why 35 Million Canadians are Not Enough*, to fully engage in dialogue and discussion. Visit your local bookseller (we’re a huge fan of indie bookstore Armchair Books in Whistler) or online stores to get your copy. This session includes a glass of wine to sip during this stirring literary salon. **Moderator:** JJ Lee

 **READING EVENT 11:**
Book Launch – The Kawai Scrolls
4 - 5 p.m. | Whistler Public Library | FREE


Join us for the official launch of *The Kawai Scrolls*, winner of the inaugural Whistler Book Prize for Independent Authors. *The Kawai Scrolls* charts the picaresque adventures of a young American anthropologist studying the Ainu people in Japan and examines the concept of indigenous culture from a fresh perspective. Author Louis Druehl, Professor Emeritus at Simon Fraser University, is the author of *Pacific Seaweeds* (Harbour Publishing) a bestselling introduction to kelp varieties. This event includes a reading, book-signing, discussion and light refreshments. **Moderator:** Lynn Duncan

 **READING EVENT 13:**
When Reality Looks Like Fiction, How do you Write Your Way to the Truth?
Doug Saunders, Leslie Anthony, Claudia Casper and Gurjinder Basran.
8 p.m. | Fairmont Chateau Whistler
\$22 includes a glass of wine.
Sponsored by: Pasta Lupino and Burnt Stew Computer Solutions

The festival’s gala reading event sees Grant Lawrence lead a conversation about why authors choose fiction or non-fiction to tell a particular story. And, in the case of our guest authors, a particular *kind* of story, for example: existential threats to humanity, the threat to global order, or the future of the health of our planet? In times of suppression and avoidance, how do fiction and non-fiction authors find creative ways to keep facts and truth on the front burner—and is there a difference in their ability to do so?

Some Assembly Required brings the live music to this year’s signature reading event. Comprising musicians from Whistler and Vancouver, Some Assembly Required plays ska, reggae, blues and gypsy jazz with a healthy mix of originals and covers. Stephen Vogler, guitar, mandolin, vocals; Geeta Das, trumpet, saxophone, vocals; Tony Moser, bass; and Dean Feser, percussion. **Moderator:** Grant Lawrence

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

 **READING EVENT 14:**
A Walk to Lost Lake and Back
Terry Fallis, Shelley O’Callaghan and Mark Leiren-Young.
9 - 10 a.m. | Fairmont Chateau Whistler
Admission by donation, includes hot chocolate

Solvitur ambulando. “It is solved by walking.” Take a walk with us to the beach and back through the pine forests of Lost Lake Park. Inhale a dose of fresh air, get a little exercise, and enjoy invigorating writerly conversation with our guest authors along the stunning lakeshore. The flat gravel trail is a 4 km round trip. Rain or shine. Please bring appropriate outdoor clothing. Hot chocolate included! Don’t forget your camera. Tickets limited to twenty registrants. **Moderator:** Grant Lawrence



 **READING EVENT 15:**
Doug Saunders in Conversation
Barbara Gowdy, Monia Mazigh, Frances Itani, Michael Harris and Lee Maracle.
11 a.m. - 1 p.m. | Fairmont Chateau Whistler
\$40 includes brunch

Join us for a delicious brunch and indulge your literary cravings during a conversation between moderator Doug Saunders (*Maximum Canada: Why 35 Million Canadians Aren’t Enough*), and Barbara Gowdy (*Little Sister*), Monia Mazigh (*Hope Has Two Daughters*), Frances Itani (*That’s My Baby*), Michael Harris (*Solitude*) and Lee Maracle (*My Conversations with Canadians*).

Armchair Books and Penguin Random House Canada welcome these authors to the Whistler Writers Festival



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- Michael Redhill
- Doug Saunders
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GUEST AUTHORS



Rafal Gerszak

CAROLINE ADDERSON is the award-winning author of four novels, two collections of short stories, as well as many books for young readers. She is also the editor and co-contributor

of a non-fiction book of essays and photographs, *Vancouver Vanishes: Narratives of Demolition and Revival*. Her work has received numerous award nominations including the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award, two Commonwealth Writers' Prizes, the Governor General's Literary Award, the Rogers' Trust Fiction Prize, and the Scotiabank Giller Prize longlist. Winner of three BC Book Prizes and three CBC Literary Awards, Caroline was also the recipient of the 2006 Marian Engel Award for mid-career achievement.



GAIL ANDERSON-DARGATZ

's novels have been published worldwide in English and in many other languages. Her international bestsellers *The Cure for Death by Lightning* and *A Recipe for Bees* were both finalists for the prestigious Giller Prize. Her latest novel, *The Spawning Grounds*, has just been nominated for the OLA Evergreen Award. Gail mentors writers from around the world on her online forums and offers annual writing retreats on Manitoulin Island, ON, and in the Shuswap region of BC.



LESLIE ANTHONY is a

Whistler-based writer, editor, biologist and occasional filmmaker. A former editor at *Powder*, *Bike* and *SKIER* magazines, he continues his residence on the masthead of numerous ski and outdoor publications globally. At home, Anthony oversees award-winning *Mountain Life Annual*, pens a weekly column in *Pique Newsmagazine*, and writes broadly on travel, adventure, science and the environment in magazines like *Canadian Geographic*. Author of two previously acclaimed titles, *Snakebit* and *White Planet*, his latest book

is *The Aliens Among Us: How invasive species are transforming the planet—and ourselves*.



Dave Barnes

FEET BANKS was born in 1976 and raised in Northern BC without electricity and his first friend was a rooster named Houdini. At age 12 his parents moved him to Whistler to live

the dream. He studied writing and film at the University of Victoria before returning home to continue living the dream while making stupid little horror movies with his friends. He is the founding editor of *Mountain Life Magazine*, the co-creator of the Heavy Hitting HorrorFest and his "Notes from the Back Row" movie column in the *Pique Newsmagazine* has been running weekly since 2003. Known as Whistler's *enfant terrible*, Feet loves naps, fishing, drive-in movie theatres and finding new ways to stir the pot. His latest passion project is a web-zine about pie.



BYRNA BARCLAY is an award-winning author of novels, short story collections and a playscript. *The House of the White Elephant*, loosely based on her paternal ancestry, is

her tenth publication and was the Fiction Winner of the 2016 Whistler Independent Book Awards. Byrna has served as president of the Saskatchewan Writers Guild and was editor of *Freelance*, the Guild's newsletter, and fiction editor of *Grain*, its literary journal, and has been vice-chair of the Saskatchewan Arts Board. In 2005, she was awarded the Saskatchewan Order of Merit.



BRANDON BARRETT is a writer, actor and stand-up comedian who has long been fascinated with the stories we tell. As an award-winning journalist for Whistler's signature publication, *Pique Newsmagazine*, he's had the rare opportunity to uncover some of those stories, and even spin some of his own yarns in the process. A graduate of Carleton University,

Brandon relishes the chance to shine a light on Whistler's burgeoning comedy scene – five minutes at a time.



MICHAEL BASER is a screen writer/producer/showrunner of primetime television. In a career that spanned 38 years, Mr. Baser has written for and/or produced a wide

array of popular and critically acclaimed shows such as "Good Times", "Maude", "The Jeffersons", "Three's Company", "9 to 5", and "Full House", to name a few. In addition, Mr. Baser has been placed in development deals with all the major studios including, 20th Century Fox, Universal Pictures, Columbia TriStar, Disney and Warner Brothers. Subsequently he has sold and written over 15 pilots for CBS, ABC, NBC, Fox and various cable outlets. Currently, Mr. Baser is a resident of Vancouver BC where he is the Head of Writing for Film and Television and Head of Film Production at the Vancouver Film School.



GURJINDER BASRAN's debut novel, *Everything Was Good-bye*, was the winner of the BC Ethel Wilson Fiction Award in 2011 and named as a Chatelaine Magazine Book Club

pick in 2012. Gurjinder was named by the CBC as one of "Ten Canadian women writers you need to read". She lives in Delta, BC with her family. Her current novel *Someone You Love is Gone* comes out August 2017.



MARGO BATES teaches workshops for writers on research strategies for writing fiction and non-fiction, humour writing, storytelling, and publicity for authors. She does public

speaking, publicity, and photography. The author of *P.S. Don't Tell Your Mother*, she's currently writing *The Funeral Follower*. She's the past-president of Canadian Authors-Metro Vancouver, and she served nationally as the vice-chair. She belongs

to Rainwriters writing group, the Federation of BC Writers, and RCLAS – Royal City Literary Arts Society. She's an alumna of Erma Bombeck Humor Writers Workshop, University of Dayton, Ohio. And, she's a darn good cook. margobates.com.



YVONNE BLOMER is an award winning writer and the Poet Laureate of Victoria, British Columbia. Born in Zimbabwe, she has lived in Japan and England and has cycled in South-

east Asia, Japan, Mexico, Canada, France and the UK. *Sugar Ride: Cycling from Hanoi to Kuala Lumpur* (Palimpsest Press, 2017) is her most recent book about her three month journey by bicycle. She has also published three poetry collections, most recently *As if a Raven* (Palimpsest Press, 2014). In the fall of 2017 *Refugium: Poems for the Pacific*, edited by Yvonne will be released with Caitlin Press. Deeply concerned for the environment, Yvonne tries to consider her impact on the planet in every action and decision.



ROO BORSON has published thirteen previous books of poems, most recently *Rain; road; an open boat and Short Journey Upriver Toward Oishida*, winner of the Governor

General's Award, the Pat Lowther Memorial Award, and the Griffin Poetry Prize. She has also won awards for her essays. With Kim Maltman, she writes and translates collaboratively under the pen name Baziju. She lives in Toronto.



TARYN BOYD is the publisher of TouchWood Editions, a Victoria-based publisher that produces a range of contemporary lifestyle books including cook-books, biography, and crime

fiction, and she oversees TouchWood's literary imprint, Brindle & Glass. TouchWood currently publishes about 24 titles per year and the full list can be viewed at touchwoodeditions.com.



MIJI CAMPBELL is a writer and teacher. Her first book *Separation Anxiety: A Coming of Middle Age Story* was winner of the 2016 Whistler Independent Book Award for Nonfiction.

Miji's work has appeared in numerous publications including *Reader's Digest*, *Today's Parent Magazine*, *The Calgary Herald*, *The Edmonton Journal*, *Women's Words: An Anthology*, and has been broadcast on CBC Radio. Miji has received two National Magazine Award nominations. Born and raised in Calgary, she now lives in Red Deer, Alberta.



CLAUDIA CASPER's first novel, *The Reconstruction*, was the object of a bidding war, quickly reached bestseller lists where it stayed for months, was published in Germany, the

UK, and the U.S. and was optioned for film. *The Continuation of Love by Other Means*, her second novel was short-listed for the Ethel Wilson BC Book Prize. Her post-apocalyptic, West Coast novel, *The Mercy Journals*, won the Philip K. Dick Science Fiction Prize. Her writing has appeared in the *Globe and Mail*, the *Vancouver Sun*, *Geist*, *Event*, *Best Canadian Short Stories (Oberon)*, the anthology *Dropped Threads: What We Aren't Told* (Vintage), edited by Carol Shields and Marjorie Anderson. She is currently writing a screenplay for a 3D France/Canada coproduction feature film of *The Reconstruction*.



DAVID CHARIANDY grew up in Toronto and lives and teaches in Vancouver. His debut novel, *Soucouyant*, received stunning reviews and nominations from eleven literary awards juries,

including a Governor General's Literary Award shortlisting, a Gold Independent Publisher Award for Best Novel, and the Scotiabank Giller Prize longlist. *Brother* is his second novel.



ANITA CHONG is a Senior Editor at McClelland & Stewart, where she acquires and edits literary fiction, narrative non-fiction, and memoir.

Notable titles include *4 3 2 1* by

Paul Auster, *The Luminaries* by Eleanor Catton, *If I Fall, If I Die* by Michael Christie, *We're All in This Together* by Amy Jones, *The Measure of a Man* by JJ Lee, and *Above All Things* by Tanis Rideout. She also manages the Journey Prize for emerging Canadian writers. Her 2017 titles include Stacey May Fowles's bestselling memoir, *Baseball Life Advice*, and a trio of exceptional debut novels: *So Much Love* by Rebecca Rosenblum, *All Is Beauty Now* by Sarah Faber, and *The Boat People* by Sharon Bala.



KEVIN CONNOLLY's previous collections include *Asphalt Cigar* (finalist, Gerald Lampert Award), *Drift* (winner, Trillium Poetry Prize), and *Revolver* (finalist, Griffin Poetry Prize,

Trillium Book Award). His most recent published collection of poetry is called *Xiphoid Process* and Kevin is also the current poetry editor at House of Anansi Press. He teaches poetry in the MFA program at the University of Guelph-Humber and has been poetry faculty at the Banff Centre's May Writing Studio.



LOUIS DRUEHL is the editor of *The New Bamfielder* and Professor Emeritus at Simon Fraser University where he taught and researched kelp for 36 years. His bestseller,

Pacific Seaweeds, introduced thousands to these little-appreciated plants. Louis continues a 40-year relationship with Japanese seaweed researchers. At home in Bamfield he works on restoring British Columbia's failing kelp beds. He and his wife, Rae, run Canadian Kelp Resources, which produces sea vegetables and promotes kelp farming. *Kawai Scrolls* is his second novel.

GUEST AUTHORS



LYNN DUNCAN is a director of Vivalogue Publishing. Since its inception in 2010, Vivalogue has produced quality titles for independent authors, partnered with a traditional publishing company to develop a specialty imprint and worked with authors in co-publishing partnerships. Vivalogue administers the Whistler Independent Book Awards and the Whistler Independent Book Prize in conjunction with The Whistler Writing Society.



Ronnie Lee Hill

LEANNE DUNIC is a multi-disciplinary artist, musician, and writer. Her work has won several honours, including the 2015 Alice Munro Short Story Contest, and has appeared in magazines and anthologies in Canada and abroad. Based in Vancouver, British Columbia, Leanne is the Artistic Director of the Powell Street Festival Society and is the singer/guitarist of *The Deep Cove*. *To Love the Coming End* is her first book.



CARY FAGAN is an award-winning author for children. His kids' books include *Mort Ziff Is Not Dead*, *Wolfie and Fly*, *Little Blue Chair*, the popular *Kaspar Snit* novels, the two-volume *Master Melville's Medicine Show*, and the picture book *Mr. Zinger's Hat*, winner of the Marilyn Baillie Picture Book Award and the IODE Jean Throop Award, as well as a TD Book Giveaway in Canada. He has also won the Jewish Book Award and been shortlisted for the Silver Birch Award (five times), the Rocky Mountain Book Award (twice), the Hackmatack Award (twice), the Norma Fleck Award, the Shining Willow Award, and others.



TERRY FALLIS grew up in Toronto and earned an engineering degree from McMaster University. Drawn to politics at an early age, he worked for

cabinet ministers at Queen's Park and in Ottawa. His first novel, *The Best Laid Plans*, began as a podcast, then was self-published, won the Stephen Leacock Medal for Humour, was re-published by McClelland & Stewart to great reviews, was crowned the 2011 winner of CBC's Canada Reads as "the essential Canadian novel of the decade," and became a CBC Television series. His next two novels, *The High Road* and *Up and Down* were finalists for the Leacock Medal, and in 2015, he won the prize a second time, for his fourth book, *No Relation*. A skilled public speaker, Terry Fallis is also co-founder of the public relations agency Thornley Fallis. *One Brother Shy* is his latest novel. He lives in Toronto with his wife and two sons. terryfallis.com.



JOAN B. FLOOD grew up in Limerick, Ireland and lived briefly in France and England before settling in Canada. She spent some years in Ottawa, Toronto and Hamilton, Ontario before arriving in Vancouver, where she currently lives. Her work has appeared in anthologies in Canada, USA and Australia. Her Young Adult novel, *New Girl*, won the Orpheus Fiction Contest and was published in the USA by Musa Publishing. Her story 87 won honourable mention in The Binnacle Ninth Annual Ultra-Short Story Competition 2012 (USA). Her latest novel is *Left Unsaid*, a family drama set in contemporary Ireland..



DARCIE FRIESEN HOSSACK is a graduate of the Humber School for Writers and, for eleven years, wrote food memoir for various western Canadian newspapers. Her short story collection, *Mennonites Don't Dance*, was a runner-up for the 2011 Danuta Gleed Award, shortlisted for the 2011 Commonwealth Writers Prize, and the 2012 OLA Forest of Reading Evergreen Award for Adult Fiction. She is currently at work on a novel.



LEAH GARRAD-COLE is the founder of the highly successful Love Child Organics brand of baby and children's foods. An entrepreneur, mother, and former special education

teacher, Leah currently resides in Whistler, BC with her husband and two young children. *It All Begins With Food* follows a philosophy that was born of the desire to provide delicious and nutritious foods for babies and children and to encourage a lifelong love of healthy eating. Leah Garrad-Cole's cookbook expands on this mission, providing simple-to-make, healthy recipes for everything from baby foods to baked goods, and finger foods to family meals. You'll find inspiration for preparing the everyday essentials—breakfast, lunch, and dinner—and innovative ways to create healthier versions of processed foods and celebratory treats for special occasions, as well as tips on stocking your pantry so you're ready for anything.



DON GORMAN has spent most of his professional life working within the book trade and has held positions as a bookseller, bookstore owner, publisher's sales representative, and acquisitions editor. In 2006 he took over RMB | Rocky Mountain Books (rmbooks.com), a well-established and respected guidebook company that traditionally published 3-5 books per year. Since then, he has repositioned the company for the 21st century and now successfully publishes and promotes a yearly catalogue of 20-30 provocative, engaging and award-winning books on mountain history, adventure travel, outdoor culture, environmental consciousness, contemporary photography and children's books. He has served on the boards of the Association of Canadian Publishers (ACP), Association of Book Publishers of British Columbia (ABPBC), the Book Publishers Association of Alberta (BPAA), and the College of Fellows for the Royal Canadian Geographic Society. An avid fly fisherman, hiker and runner, he and his kids live in Victoria, BC.



BARBARA GOWDY is the author of eight books, including *Helpless*, *The Romantic*, *The White Bone*, *Mister Sandman*, *We So Seldom Look on Love*, *Falling Angels* and

most recently, *Little Sister*, all of which have been met with widespread international acclaim and critical praise. She has been a finalist three times for the Governor General's Award and the Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize, and twice for the Giller Prize and the Commonwealth Writers' Prize, and has been longlisted for the Man Booker Prize. In 1996, she received the Marian Engel Award and in 2008 the Trillium Book Award. A Member of the Order of Canada and a Guggenheim Fellow, Barbara Gowdy lives in Toronto.



Vancouver collaborative brewery Callister.

BEN GREENBERG is the owner of Night Owl Brewing, a small batch beer company focused on making a rotating selection of fresh IPAs, fruit beers & experimental brews at the East



JANE EATON HAMILTON is the author of 9 books of cnf, fiction and poetry, including the 2016 novel *WEEKEND* and two prior collections of short fiction. Jane's books

have been shortlisted for the MIND Book Award, the BC Book Prize, the VanCity Award, the Pat Lowther Award and the Ferro-Grumley Award. Their memoir was one of the UK Guardian's Best Books of the Year and a Sunday Times bestseller. They are the two-time winner of Canada's CBC Literary Award for fiction (2003/2014). They have had a notable in BASS and BAE (2016) and have appeared in The Journey Prize, Best Canadian Short Stories and Best Canadian Poetry. Their work has recently appeared at *Salon*, *The Rumpus*, *The Missouri Review*, the *NY Times* and *The Sun*. Jane edits for Many Gendered Mothers and is a founding member of CripsCanLit. They are also a member of the TWUC Equity Task Force,

GUEST AUTHORS

serve on literature juries, and mentor new queer/trans writers. They live in Vancouver. janeatonhamilton.org.



MICHAEL HARRIS is the author of *Solitude* (2017) and *The End of Absence* (2014), which won the Governor General's Literary Award. He writes about media, civil liberties,

and the arts, for dozens of publications, including *The Washington Post*, *Wired*, *Salon*, *Discover*, *The Huffington Post*, and *The Globe & Mail*. His work has been a finalist for the RBC Taylor Prize, the BC National Award for Canadian Non-Fiction, the Chautauqua Prize, the CBC Bookie Award, and several National Magazine Awards. He lives with the artist Kenny Park in Vancouver, Canada.



David P. Leonard

TEVA HARRISON is an artist, writer and cartoonist. She is the author of the bestselling, critically-acclaimed hybrid graphic memoir, *In-Between Days*, published by House of

Anansi Press. The book was a national bestseller, shortlisted for the Governor General's Literary Award for Non-Fiction and named a best book of the year by *The Globe and Mail*, *The National Post*, *CBC*, *iBooks*, *KOBO*, *Walrus Magazine* and *The Quill and Quire*. Numerous health organizations have invited her to speak publicly on behalf of the metastatic cancer community. She lives in Toronto.



KAREN HAUGHIAN was a founding member of the Montreal publishing house Nuage Editions in 1986, the first desktop publisher in Quebec. In 1997 she moved

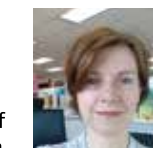
the press to Winnipeg and in 2000 renamed it Signature Editions. Unabashedly literary, the press is committed to discovering and developing Canadian writing of literary merit, regardless of genre. Its award-winning list includes both estab-

lished authors and first-book authors. It currently publishes, on average, 10 books per year, in the areas of fiction, literary non-fiction and poetry. New titles in 2017 include festival authors Joan B. Flood's *Left Unsaid* and Jim Nason's *Spirit of a Hundred Thousand Dead Animals*.



STEVEN HEIGHTON's most recent books are the novel *The Nightingale Won't Let You Sleep* and a poetry collection, *The Waking Comes Late*, which received the 2016

Governor General's Award. His novel *Afterlands* has appeared in six countries, was a New York Times Book Review editors' choice, and was cited on best of year lists in ten publications in Canada, the USA, and the UK. The novel is now in pre-production for film. His short fiction and poetry have received four gold National Magazine Awards and have appeared in *London Review of Books*, *Best English Stories*, *Poetry*, *Best American Poetry*, *Tin House*, *TLR*, *Best American Mystery Stories*, *Zoetrope* and five editions of *Best Canadian Stories*. Heighton is also a translator, an occasional teacher, and a fiction reviewer for the *New York Times Book Review*.



LYNN HENRY is the Publishing Director at Knopf Canada / Random House of Canada, and previous Publishing Director at Doubleday Canada / Random House of Canada, and Publisher at House of Anansi Press.

GUEST AUTHORS



HELEN HUMPHREYS's new book, *The Ghost Orchard*, details her fascinating journey into the secret history of an iconic food. Her most recent novel, *The Evening Chorus*,

was nominated for a Governor General's Award and was a national bestseller. Her critically acclaimed memoir, *Nocturne*, was a finalist for the Trillium Book Award. Previous novels include *Coventry*, a New York Times Editors' Choice, a *Globe and Mail* Best Book of the Year, and a finalist for the Trillium Book Award; *Afterimage*, which won the Rogers Writers' Trust Prize for fiction; *Leaving Earth*, which won the Toronto Book Award; and *The Lost Garden*, which was a Canada Reads selection. The recipient of the Harbourfront Festival Prize for literary excellence, Humphreys lives in Kingston, Ontario.



Maggie Kraus

FRANCES ITANI, Member of the Order of Canada, is an award-winning author of 16 books: novels, poetry, short stories and children's books. Her new novel, about identity and belonging, is *That's My Baby*, partly set during the jazz and big-band era of WW2. Tell (a follow-up to WWI novel, *Deafening*), was shortlisted for the Giller Prize in 2014. Other novels include *Remembering the Bones* (a bestseller, shortlisted for a Commonwealth Award), and *Requiem*, published internationally and chosen by The Washington Post as one of the top fiction titles in the U.S. in 2012. She has written three books of poetry, including *A Season of Mourning*, illustrated by Molly Bobak. Itani has won many awards for her short stories, including two Ottawa Book Awards; she is also a three-time winner of the CBC Literary Award. Her novel *Deafening*, a #1 bestseller translated and published in 17 countries, won a Commonwealth Prize for Best Book, was shortlisted for the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award, named Book of the Year (MacEwan University), won the Kingston Reads Award, and was chosen as a finalist for CBC's *Canada Reads* and *Combat des Livres*.



VICI JOHNSTONE has worked in theatre, radio, television, film and digital media. She entered the publishing industry in 2006 when she was hired by Harbour Publishing as the

production manager, and later the managing editor and general manager. She purchased Caitlin Press in 2008. Since that time, she has published dozens of titles, and in 2015, edited *This Place a Stranger: Canadian Women Travelling Alone*.



SHEENA KAMAL holds an HBA in Political Science from the University of Toronto, and was awarded a TD Canada Trust scholarship for community leadership and activism

around the issue of homelessness. *The Lost Ones* is inspired by this and by Kamal's most recent work as a researcher into crime and investigative journalism for the film and television industry.



Aaron Rubin

GRANT LAWRENCE is a popular CBC personality and is the author of two bestselling books, *Adventures In Solitude* and *The Lonely End of the Rink*. Both titles won the Bill

Duthie Booksellers' Choice Award at the BC Book Prizes, marking the first time that the same author has won this prize twice. Grant Lawrence is also a Canadian Screen Award winner, the lead singer of the Smugglers, a columnist for the *Westender*, and the goalie for the Flying Vees beer league hockey team. Grant's outrageous third book, *Dirty Windshields: The Best and the Worst of the Smugglers Tour Diaries*, is out now.



SARA LEACH is the author of several books for children, including the forthcoming novel *Slug Days*. Some of her other titles include *Jake Reynolds: Against the Tide*,

Mountain Machines and the Red Cedar Award winning *Count Me In*. She is a teacher-librarian in Whistler, BC.



JJ LEE is the author of the critically-acclaimed memoir, *The Measure of a Man: The Story of a Father, a Son, and a Suit*. It was finalist for the Governor-General's Literary

Award, the Hilary Weston Writer's Trust Prize, and the Charles Taylor Prize. He is the winner of a National Magazine Award for Best Short Feature. Between 1999 and 2008, he worked for CBC Radio as a host, reporter, and story producer. His documentaries have aired on CBC's *The Current*, *Ideas*, and *Sounds Like Canada*. JJ mentors the nonfiction workshop at the Writer's Studio at Simon Fraser University. He lives in New Westminster.



MARK LEIREN-YOUNG was swallowed by a whale named Moby Doll. His new book, *The Killer Whale Who Changed the World* – about the first ever orca displayed

in captivity – won the 2016 Science Writers and Communicators Book Award. Mark is directing a feature documentary about Moby and his short documentary *The Hundred-Year-Old Whale*, debuts at festivals this fall. He hosts the popular podcast, *Skaana*, about orcas, oceans and the environment (www.skaana.org). Mark is also a playwright whose work has been produced around the world. He has two plays running in Vancouver this season – *Shylock* is at Bard on the Beach in September and *Bar Mitzvah Boy* debuts at Pacific Theatre in March, 2018. www.leiren-young.com @leirenyoung



MARY MACDONALD is a poet and writer with a Ph.D. from UBC. She has written poetry for ballet, public art, and libretto. Her work has appeared in *Room Magazine* and *Pique*

Newsmagazine. Her chapbook, *Going In Now*, was published in 2014 by NIB Publishing. She is a member of the Whistler writers group The Vicious Circle.



Brian K Smith

JOHN MACLACHLAN GRAY is a multi-talented artist. As a playwright, composer and theatre director, he has created many acclaimed productions, most notably *Billy Bishop Goes*

to War (1978), which won the Governor General's Literary Award for Drama, was produced on and off Broadway, and was released as a feature film in 2011. As a writer, Gray has authored several books, fiction and non-fiction, including a series of mystery-thrillers: *A Gift For The Little Master* (Random House, 2000), *The Fiend in Human* (St. Martins/Random House, 2004), *White Stone Day* (Minotaur Books, 2005) and *Not Quite Dead* (Minotaur Books, 2007). He is an Officer of the Order of Canada. He lives in Vancouver, BC. *The White Angel* (Douglas & McIntyre, 2017) is a fictional crime novel, and most current release.



Columpa Bobb

LEE MARACLE is the author of numerous critically acclaimed literary works, including *Sundogs*, *Ravensong*, *Sojourner's Truth and Other Stories*, *Bobbi Lee: Indian Rebel*, *Daughters*

Are Forever, *Will's Garden*, *Bent Box*, *Memory Serves*, *I Am Woman*, and *Talking to the Diaspora*. She is the co-editor of a number of anthologies, including the award-winning *My Home As I Remember*. Her latest is book, *My Conversations with Canadians*. A member of the Stó:lō nation, Maracle is a recipient of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal, the JT Stewart Award, and the Ontario Premier's Award for Excellence in the Arts for 2014. Maracle is currently an instructor in the Aboriginal Studies Program at the University of Toronto, where she teaches Oral Tradition. She is also the Traditional Teacher for First Nation's House and an instructor with the Centre for Indigenous Theatre. Maracle has served as Distinguished Visiting Scholar at the University of Toronto, the University of Waterloo, and the University of Western Washington, and received an Honorary Doctor of Letters from St. Thomas University in 2009.



SUZETTE MAYR is the author of four previous novels: *Monoceros*, *Moon Honey*, *The Widows*, and *Venous Hum*. *The Widows* was shortlisted for the Commonwealth Writ-

ers' 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. *Monoceros* was longlisted for the Giller Prize. *Dr. Edith Vane and the Hares of Crawley Hall* is Mayr's new book. Suzette Mayr lives and works in Calgary.



MONIA MAZIGH was born and raised in Tunisia and immigrated to Canada in 1991. She was catapulted onto the public stage in 2002 when her husband, Maher Arar, was

deported to Syria where he was tortured and held without charge. She campaigned tirelessly for his release. Mazigh holds a Ph.D. in finance from McGill University. She is the National Coordinator of the International Civil Liberties Monitoring Group. She has published a memoir, *Hope and Despair*, and her novel *Mirrors and Mirages* was a finalist for the Trillium Book Award in the original French.



CAREN MCSHERRY founded and owns Vancouver's Gourmet Warehouse, which stocks over 28,000 culinary products in store and online. In 1978, she opened a cooking school

in Vancouver, and she has since attended several international culinary academies, including the Culinary Institute of America and the Cordon Bleu, and taught thousands of culinary students, whether in person, on her regular Global TV segment or on her weekly CKNW radio show. The author lives in Vancouver, BC. Her new book is *Starters, Salads, and Sexy Sides: Inspiring Recipes to Make Every Meal an Occasion*.



JIM NASON, has published five poetry collections as well as a short story collection. *Spirit of a Hundred Thousand Dead Animals* is his third novel. His work has been published in

anthologies across Canada and the U. S., including *Best Canadian Poetry in English*, 2008, 2010 and 2014. Jim has been a finalist for the CBC Literary Award in both fiction and poetry categories. *Spirit of a Hundred Thousand Dead Animals* was inspired at the Edinburgh International Fringe Festival – Jim was a participant on a panel about sexuality in Canadian Poetry: *The Frigid North*. jimnason@sympatico.ca



SUSIN NIELSEN is the award-winning author of five young adult novels. She got her start feeding cast and crew on the popular television series, *Degrassi Junior High*. They

hated her food, but they saw a spark in her writing. Nielsen went on to pen sixteen episodes of the hit TV show. Since then, Nielsen has written for over 20 Canadian TV series. Her first young adult novel, *Word Nerd*, was published in 2008 to critical acclaim. It won multiple Young Readers' Choice Awards, as did her second novel, *Dear George Clooney: Please Marry My Mom*. Her third novel, *The Reluctant Journal of Henry K. Larsen*, won the Governor General's Literary Award, the Canadian Library Association's Children's Book of the Year Award, and a number of Young Readers' Choice Awards. Author Wally Lamb named it his top YA pick for 2012 in his "First Annual Wally Awards," and recently Rolling Stone magazine put it at #27 in their list of "Top 40 Best YA Novels." *We Are All Made of Molecules*, published in 2015, was longlisted for UK's Carnegie Medal and nominated for the Governor General's Literary Award. Nielsen's latest novel, *Optimists Die First*, came out in February 2017. It has received starred reviews in *Publisher's Weekly*, *Kirkus*, *The School Library Journal* and *Quill & Quire*. Her books have been translated into many languages. She lives in Vancouver with her family and two naughty cats.

GUEST AUTHORS



SUSAN OAKEY-BAKER is a local Whistler author, public speaker, teacher, guide, and artist. She has explored the outdoors all over the world and has guided more than 150 people, ranging

in age from sixteen to eighty-five, to the top of Africa's highest peak, Mount Kilimanjaro. Her first book, *Finding Jim*, was launched in October 2013 by Rocky Mountain Books. Her second novel about climbing Mount Kilimanjaro is close to completion. She has presented to audiences as small as twenty and as big as seven hundred. Susan grew up in Vancouver and now lives in Whistler with her husband, Joe, and their eleven-year-old son, Sam.



SHELLEY O'CALLAGHAN worked as a volunteer teacher for two years with the Canadian University Services Overseas in Zambia where she fostered literacy among adults in the rural communities and encouraged girls to stay in school and finish their education. She is passionate about history, social justice and the environment. O'Callaghan practiced environmental law for twenty-five years and has been recognized as one of Canada's pre-eminent environmental lawyers. O'Callaghan is a member of the North Shore Writers Association, The Whistler Writing Society and the Canadian Creative Non-Fiction Collective. Her book *How Deep is the Lake: A Century at Chilliwick Lake* is being released by Caitlin Press.



BRIONY PENN has spent the last twenty-two years working as an award-winning newspaper and magazine columnist/illustrator, having published over 400 columns on natural/cultural history in regional newspapers and magazines, including "Wild Side" for *Monday Magazine* and "Natural Relations" for *Focus*. She received a Western Magazine Award for Best Columnist and Feature Writer, won the Silver Environment Educator Award at the Canadian Environmental Awards and was nominated for

best North American columnist in alternative weeklies. She lives on Salt Spring Island, British Columbia. Her current release is a biography, *The Real Thing: The Natural History of Ian McTaggart Cowan*.



IRA PETTIE, M.Ed - With 20+ years performing, producing, teaching, and inspiring, Ira continues to dive deeper into his work. This year, Ira is back co-producing and directing

Comedy Quickies, the Whistler Writers Festival's first comedy writing contest set to stage. irapettie.com



MICHAEL REDHILL is a novelist, poet, playwright and former publisher of *Brick*. He is the author of the novels *Consolation* and *Martin Sloane*, a finalist for the 2001 Giller Prize; the short story collection *Fidelity*; and the poetry collection *Light-Crossing*; among other acclaimed works. His forthcoming novel, *Bellevue Square*, will be published in September 2017. He lives in Toronto, ON.



SANDRA RIDLEY is a multiple-award-winning poet, instructor, editor and is the author of three books of poetry: *Fallout* (winner of a 2010 Saskatchewan Book Award

and the Alfred G. Bailey Prize); *Post-Apothecary* (finalist for the ReLit and Archibald Lampman Awards); and *The Counting House* (published by BookThug in 2013; finalist for the Archibald Lampman Award and chosen as one of the top five poetry books of 2013 in *Quill & Quire's* Readers' Poll). Her latest book, *Sivija* (2016, BookThug) was a finalist for the 2017 Griffin Poetry Prize for Excellence. In 2015, Ridley was a finalist for the KM Hunter Artist Award for Literature. She lives in Ottawa.



LENORE ROWNTREE grew up in Toronto and now lives beside the heron rookery in Vancouver's Stanley Park. Her writing has appeared in many journals and anthologies including *The*

Best Canadian Poetry Anthology. Her play *The Woods at Tender Creek* was produced in Vancouver at the Cultch in 2010, and she is a co-editor and contributor to the anthology of life stories *Hidden Lives: coming out on mental illness* (Brindle & Glass, 2012); a second edition to be released as *Hidden Lives: true stories from people who live with mental illness* (Brindle & Glass, 2017). A collection of short stories *Dovetail Joint* was published in 2015 (Quadra Books) and *Cluck*, a novel was released in fall 2016 (Thistledown Press).



DOUG SAUNDERS is a Canadian author and journalist. He is the author of the books *Arrival City: The Final Migration and Our Next World* and *The Myth of the Muslim Tide*, and is the

international-affairs columnist for *The Globe and Mail*. He served as the paper's London-based European bureau chief for a decade, after having run the paper's Los Angeles bureau, and has written extensively from East Asia, the Indian Subcontinent, the Middle East and North Africa. He writes a weekly column devoted to the larger themes and intellectual concepts behind international news, and has won the National Newspaper Award on five occasions. His new book, *Maximum Canada: Why 35 Million Canadians are Not Enough* will be released in September 2017.



THE SEA TO SKY ORCHES- is a 14-member strings ensemble featuring violin, viola, and cello players, and a harpsichord/organ player from Pemberton, Whistler

and Squamish. Founded in 2014, the group is passionate about sharing the music of Vivaldi, Bach, Mozart and other classical composers to audiences throughout the corridor.



SUZANNAH SHOWLER's first book, *Failure to Thrive* (2014), was a finalist for the Gerald Lampert Award and named one of the best books of the year by the *National Post*. Her poetry

and non-fiction have appeared in places such as *Slate*, *The Walrus*, *Maisonneuve*, the *Los Angeles Review of Books*, and *Hazlitt*. She is a 2017-2018 Presidential Fellow at The Ohio State University.



ALISA SMITH is an award-winning journalist and author. Her bestselling first book, *The 100-Mile Diet: A Year of Local Eating* (Vintage Canada, 2009), won the Roderick Haig-Brown

Regional Prize, the Canadian Culinary Book Award and the American Cordon d'Or Award of Literary Merit. She has contributed to many publications including *Canadian Geographic*, *Explore* and the *National Post*, and she is the recipient of several National Magazine Awards. She is pursuing a designation as a forensic accountant. Smith lives in Vancouver, BC, where she is working on the sequel to *Speakeasy, Doublespeak*.



Comprising musicians from Whistler and Vancouver, **SOME ASSEMBLY REQUIRED** plays ska, reggae, blues and gypsy jazz with a healthy mix of originals and covers. Stephen Vogler, guitar, mandolin, vocals; Geeta Das, trumpet, saxophone, vocals; Tony Moser, bass; and Dean Feser, percussion.



SUZANNE SUTHERLAND is the Children's and YA Editor at Harper Collins Publishers in Canada, where she has worked with internationally bestselling authors such as Kenneth

Oppel, Emma Donoghue, Dennis Lee and Kit Pearson. She is also the author of three novels for teens, including her most recent, *Under the Dusty Moon*.



DREW HAYDEN TAYLOR is an Ojibway from the Curve Lake First Nations in Ontario and an award-winning playwright, journalist, short-story writer, novelist, commentator, script-

writer and documentarian. As a writer/creator, he strives to educate and inform about issues that interfere with, reflect on and celebrate the lives of Canada's First Nations. With around 30 books to his credit, including the series that considered First Nations' lives through the themes of *Me Funny*, *Me Sexy* and *Me Artsy* (Douglas & McIntyre) Taylor turns his attention to yet another genre: Science Fiction, in *Take Us to Your Chief*.



SHARI ULRICH's 40 year career, from Pied Pumkin through The Hometown Band, and on as a solo artist and multi-instrumentalist has lead to 24 albums - including her

collaboration with Bill Henderson and Roy Forbes (UHF) Barney Bental & Tom Taylor (BTU), and the bluegrass band The High Bar Gang. Her work has garnered 2 Juno awards, an induction into the BC Entertainment Hall of Fame, and a 2014 Canadian Folk Music Award for English Songwriter of the Year. Shari also composes for documentary films and TV, is a songwriting educator (UBC, Humber College, and VSO School of Music) and has been producing the Bluebird North songwriter showcase for the Songwriters Association of Canada for over 20 years, both locally and nationally. www.shariulrich.com



STEPHEN VOGLER is the author of *Only in Whistler: Tales of a Mountain Town* and *Top of the Pass: Whistler and the Sea-to-Sky Country*, both published by Harbour Publishing. He

has written radio documentaries and commentaries for CBC Radio's Ideas, DNTO and Outfront programs, and contributed to *Explore Magazine*, *Hobo Magazine*, *The Globe and Mail*, and the *Georgia Straight* among other publications.

Stephen is also a songwriter and musician who performs solo and with bands Some Assembly Required and The Hounds of Buskerville. He is the founder of The Point Artist-Run Centre in Whistler. www.stephenvogler.com



TERRY WATADA is a poet (with four published titles), a playwright (with seven plays produced), a short story writer (with a published collection), a children's book writer (two

titles), a historian (two titles), and writer of two manga. He has also edited several anthologies. His first novel, *The Blood of Foxes*, was published in 2007. He looks forward to holding *The Three Pleasures*, his second novel, in his hands. Mr. Watada lives in Toronto.



JENNY D. WILLIAMS has lived and worked in the U.S., Germany, and Uganda. She holds an MFA from Brooklyn College and a BA from UC Berkeley. Her award-winning

fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and illustrations have been published or are forthcoming in *The Sun Magazine*, *Vela*, *Ethical Traveler*, and *Michigan Quarterly Review* as well as several anthologies. A former Teachers & Writers Collaborative fellow and recipient of an Elizabeth George Foundation grant for emerging writers, she currently lives in Seattle with her husband and dog. *The Atlas of Forgotten Places* is her first novel.

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