

SPLAB
giving voice to poetry

Eco-Poetics

BioRegionalism

Small Press Fair

The Living Room
The After Party

Two Workshops

National and International Poets

The Marmot Spoken Word Bout

The Film: "The Line Has Shattered"

5 Panel Discussions on Issues in Cascadia

Vancouver Island Poets
Cascadia Poets Anthology, *Make It True*

April 30 - May 3, 2015

Vancouver

Island University

Nanaimo

Downtown

Locations

CASCADIA
POETS
FESTIVAL



official
Festival Program



Enjoy
the journey.

Welcome to the 3rd Cascadia Poetry Festival!

Welcome to the 3rd Cascadia Poetry Festival. This one is unique, as it is being run under the auspices of the WordStorm Society of the Arts, and the tireless Local Organizing Committee based in Nanaimo and not SPLAB (Seattle Poetics LAB) as the first two were in 2012 and 2014. This is how community is created and this is exactly what grass roots organizing is, “natural and spontaneous” as stated in the Wikipedia definition.

Thinking in terms of living in a bioregion is an extremely subversive act. Divisions between nations are inevitable and healthy. The First People of Cascadia surely had their boundaries, but they were never drawn with straight lines. This festival seeks to make natural boundaries more present in the minds of all people who live here, to understand how things could be in our world which faces so many changes, crises and challenges and to better understand the mores of the culture here that can be employed to address those challenges.

The concept of bioregionalism is still woefully misunderstood. Bioregionalism is a reexamination of our own selves and the places in which we live in purely ecological terms, and the effort to harmonize human activities with the natural systems that sustain life. That this effort would disregard straight lines on a map suggests we take our cues from nature and not politics. In fact, when you do see straight lines on a map, that’s a very good time to start asking questions. We hope everyone attending will do just that, to be ready when unsustainable and poorly designed systems begin to fail in their world, as they are already.

The obvious Cascadia natural features: mountains, glaciers, waterfalls, fjords, islands, rain forests, untrammelled wilderness, volcanoes, hot springs, deserts and you name it, stand out here more than they do in say, Kansas, of course, which sets Cascadia apart. The remnants of Indigenous cultures and the wisdom gleaned from the last people to live sustainably here are also critical and are a guide for much of this work. The proximity (and popularity) of Asian wisdom traditions continue to fund fertile ground and adherents here, more so than “back east” and the literature here leans toward the open, the spontaneous, toward serial forms rich with Negative Capability and to a deep connection with place. As Rexroth said, we on the West Coast of North America look more towards Asia than we do Europe, so expect an event more in tune with Li Po than John Dryden.

The activities associated with the first Cascadia anthology, *Make It True*, at this festival give you some sense of that aesthetic and illustrate more of the connections that are made spontaneously, as the book’s publisher Leaf Press, is based outside of Nanaimo and many of the poets published in the book have been involved from the beginning in organizing these gatherings.

That there would be a MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) on innovative Cascadia poetry being planned by people associated with the festival, happening at aptly named Cascadia College in Bothell, Washington, is another grass roots movement that seeks to further the conversation(s) that continue here.

We’re grateful you saw value in this event and will be a part of Cascadia literary history in the spirit of the 1963 Vancouver Poetry Conference, in the spirit of the TISH group of Vancouver, BC, and in the spirit of all the qualities that engender love of Cascadia, including compassion and the sense of the inherent interconnection of all things.

Founding Director,

Paul Nelson
Seattle, WA
Green/Duwamish Watershed

Festival Schedule

THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 2015

3:00 – 5:00pm, Location: Nanaimo Museum, 100 Museum Way

Host: Mary Ann Moore

The Living Room Cascadia : A free and open democratic reading where people read their own work and listen to others in a circle format. Mary Ann Moore, Naomi Beth Wakan, Kim Clark, Philip Gordon, Ursula Vaira, Yvonne Blomer, Leanne McIntosh, Chris Hancock Donaldson Kim Goldberg, David Fraser, Ann Graham Walker, plus more. This event will be a the kick-off celebration for the festival involving local islands poets, the public and early attendees of the festival.

FRIDAY MAY 1, 2015

9:00 – 9:55 pm, Location: VIU Bldg. 355, Room 203

Viewing of the Documentary: “The Line Has Shattered”

(Other Showing Times Remaining Saturday May 2 at 1:00-1:55 and Sunday May 3 at 1:45-2:35

10:15 – 12:15 pm, Location: VIU Bldg. 355, Room 203

Host: Paul Nelson

Cascadia Geography: Place and Spirit, David McCloskey, Professor Emeritus at Seattle University and Founder of the Cascadia Institute. The “Father of Cascadia” says: “Cascadia is a real place! A quick tour of the latest images and understandings of Cascadia’s geography and ecology making it a distinctive bioregion with its own character and context.”

12:30 – 2:00 pm, Location: VIU Bldg. 355, Room 203

Host: Nadine Maestas

Panel 1 – 100 Innovative Cascadia Poets Anthology: The Making of the Book

What defines Cascadia’s innovative poetry? What has been innovative historically? In what directions is Cascadia’s poetry going in the future. Where poetic tradition and history merges with the future.

Panelists: Paul Nelson, Barry McKinnon, George Stanley, Ursula Vaira

2:15 – 5:15 pm, Location: VIU Bldg. 355, Room 103 (Workshop \$60)

Host Philip Gordon

Workshop #2: Anastacia Tolbert/ Missie Peters

Spoken Word Writing and Staging Workshop

3:00 – 5:00pm Location: Nanaimo Museum, 100 Museum Way

Host: Leanne McIntosh

The Living Room: A free and open democratic reading where people read their own work and listen to others in a circle format.

7:30 – 9:30pm, Location: Bldg. 355, Room 203

Host: Paul Nelson

100 Innovative Cascadia Poets Anthology, *Make It True*

Naomi Beth Wakan: Welcome to Nanaimo

Headliners: Barry McKinnon, George Stanley, Sharon Thesen, Peter Culley, Christine Leclerc, Renee Sarojini Saklikar, Christine Lowther

10:00pm – Onward, Location: The Globe Bar and Grill, 25 Front Street

Host: Graham Isaac

The Marmot Cascadia Spoken-Word Bout: Cascadia poets compete for the right to be crowned the Cascadia Marmot Champ: Amber Dawn, Missie Peters, Sebastien Wen, Sara Brickman, Robert Lashley, Dan Raphael, Nadine Maestas, Anastacia Tolbert

SATURDAY MAY 2, 2015

9:30 – 11:00am, Location: VIU Bldg. 355, Room 203

Host: Kim Goldberg

Panel 2: Where Geography, Culture, and Language Intersect

Panelists: David McCloskey, Robert Bringhurst, Harold Rhenisch

11:10 – 12: 40pm, Location: VIU Bldg. 355, Room 203

Host: Ann Graham Walker

Panel 3: The Ground is Always Shifting

Aspects of Living Together in a Geographically, Culturally, Socially Diverse Bio-Region

Panelists: Amber Dawn, Anastacia Tolbert, Garry Gottfriedson

1:00-1:55pm, Location: VIU Bldg. 355, Room 203

Viewing of the Documentary: “The Line Has Shattered”

(Other Showing Time Remaining Sunday May 3 at 1:15-2:10)

2:00 – 5:00pm, Location VIU Bldg. 355, Room 103 (Workshop cost \$60)

Host: Ursula Vaira

Workshop #4: Brenda Hillman, Barry McKinnon, George Stanley

3:00 – 5:00pm, Location: Nanaimo Museum, 100 Museum Way

Host: Naomi Beth Wakan

The Living Room: A free and open democratic reading where people read their own work and listen to others in a circle format.

7:30 – 9:30pm, Location: Bldg. 355, Room 203

Host: Paul Nelson

Keynote Speaker: Sam Hamill

Cascadia Poets from Different Regions

Yvonne Blomer (Victoria) Brenda Hillman, (Northern California) Amber Dawn, (Vancouver) Susan Musgrave, (Haida Gwaii) Garry Gottfriedson, (Kamloops) Harold Rhenisch (Okanagan)

10:00pm – Onward, Location: The Globe Bar and Grill, 25 Front Street

Host: Graham Isaac

The After Party Marathon: 30 + poets from around Cascadia read one poem each with lot of time for socializing between the three sets.

SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2015

9:30 – 11:00am, Location: VIU Bldg. 355, Room 203

Host: Kim Goldberg

Panel 4: Rewilding Poetry (Eco-Poetry in Cascadia)

Panelists: Rita Wong, Christine Leclerc, Sharon Thesen, Stephen Collis

11:30: – 1:00pm, Location: VIU Bldg. 355, Room 203

Host Mary Ann Moore

Panel 5: On The Margins: who or what is ‘marginal’? Who or what is considered visible, and worthy of being historical?

Panelists: Nadine Maestas, Joanne Arnott, Janet Marie Rogers, Susan Musgrave, Renée Sarojini Saklikar

1:45 – 2:35pm, Location: VIU Bldg. 355, Room 203

Viewing of the Documentary: The Line Has Shattered

3:00 – 5:30pm, Location: VIU Bldg. 355, Room 203

Host: Yvonne Blomer

Cascadia Poetry Festival Celebration Readings

Poets: Rita Wong, Joanne Arnott, Paul Nelson, Sam Hamill, Robert Bringhurst, Janet Marie Rogers, Jay Ruzesky

Brief Afterwords by Paul Nelson & David Fraser

DON'T MISS OUR SMALL PRESS FAIR AND POET'S BOOK STORE

VIU Bldg. 355, Adjacent to Room 203

Hours:

Friday 9:00AM-2:30PM

6:30PM-9:30PM

Saturday 9:00AM-2:30PM

6:30PM-9:30PM

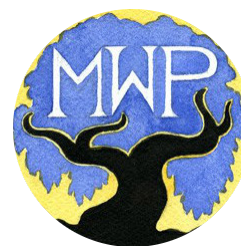
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Please note that not all press tables will be staffed for all hours

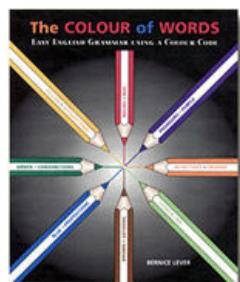
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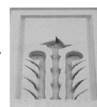


Moon Willow Press

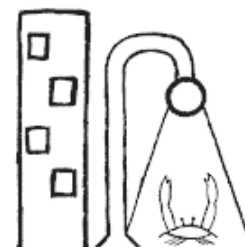


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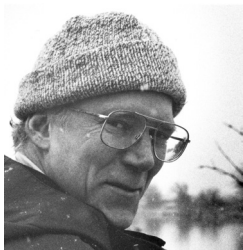
Joanne Arnott is a Canadian Métis/mixed-blood writer & arts activist, originally from Manitoba, at home on the west coast. Her book, *Wiles of Girlhood*, won the League of Canadian Poets' Gerald Lampert Award (1992). She has published essays and poetry in many anthologies, and eight further books, including *Halfling spring: an internet romance* (Kegedonce, 2014), *A Night for the Lady* (Ronsdale, 2013), *Mother Time* (Ronsdale, 2007), and *Steepy mountain love poetry* (Kegedonce, 2004). Active with the Aboriginal Writers Collective West Coast, The Writers Union of Canada, and The Writers' Trust, she is a grand multipara, a mentor and a blogger.



Yvonne Blomer was born in Zimbabwe and came to Canada when she was two years old. Her first collection, *a broken mirror, fallen leaf*, was shortlisted for the Gerald Lampert Memorial Award. Yvonne has also published two chap books *Landscapes and Home: Ghazals* (Leaf Press, 2011) and *Bicycle Brand Journey* (JackPine Press, 2012), and is the co-editor of *Poems from Planet Earth* (Leaf Press, 2013) out of the Planet Earth Poetry reading series, of which she is the Artistic Director. In 2014 her third full collection of poems *As if a Raven* was released with Palimpsest Press.



Sara Brickman is an author, performer, and activist from Ann Arbor, MI. The recipient of a grant from 4Culture, winner of the third annual Split This Rock Abortion Rights poetry contest, and an Artist Trust EDGE fellow, Sara's work has been published or is forthcoming in *Bestiary*, *Hoarse*, *The New*, *Alight*, and *Courage: Daring Poems for Gutsy Girls*. A teacher with Writers in the Schools and the 2013 Rain City Women of the World Slam Champion, Sara has performed her work across North America, including the Bumbershoot Music Festival, Northwest Folklife, and Tedx Seattle. In 2010 she founded a multimedia reading series, The Hootenanny, to showcase groundbreaking writers and performers. She lives and writes in Seattle, WA.



Robert Bringhurst is the author of more than thirty books. More than half of these are poetry. He is also known for his studies of Haida and Navajo oral literature, and for his work in the field of typography. His *Selected Poems* are published by Jonathan Cape, (London). Two volumes of his selected essays and lectures – *The Tree of Meaning* and *Everywhere Being Is Dancing* – are published by Counterpoint (Berkeley). Other books include *A Story as Sharp as a Knife: The Classical Haida Mythtellers and their World* and *The Elements of Typographic Style*, which is now in its fourth edition and has been translated into ten languages. He lives on Quadra Island, off the British Columbia coast.



Kim Clark: Disease and desire, mothering and the mundane propel Kim Clark's ongoing journey between poetry and prose, page and stage. Clark has published poetry—*Middle Child of Summer* (Leaf Press), *Sit You Waiting* (Caitlin Press), and *Dis ease ad De sire, the Manu S cript* (Lipstick Press) and short fiction—*Attemptsions* (Caitlin Press). She was a finalist in Theatre BC's 2013 Playwrights Competition, has had her novella optioned for a feature-length film and her debut novel is hitting bookshelves in 2015. Clark lives in Cedar on Vancouver Island. kimclarkwriter.com



Stephen Collis is a poet and professor of contemporary literature at Simon Fraser University. His many books of poetry include *The Commons* (Talon Books 2008; second edition 2014), *On the Material* (Talon Books 2010—awarded the BC Book Prize for Poetry), *To the Barricades* (Talon Books 2013), and *DECOMP* (Coach House 2013). He has also written two books of criticism and a novel, *The Red Album* (BookThug 2013). His collection of essays on the Occupy movement, *Dispatches from the Occupation* (Talon Books 2012), is a philosophical meditation on activist tactics, social movements, and change. He is currently writing about walking, resource extraction, and the climate commons.



Peter Culley was born in Sudbury, Ontario in 1958 and grew up on RCAF bases in Holberg, British Columbia, Cold Lake, Alberta, Dana, Saskatchewan, Clinton, Ontario and for four years in Ayr, Scotland. He has lived in and around Nanaimo since 1972 and now lives in the former coal-mining town of South Wellington, beside the main line of the Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway. His books include *Hammertown*, *The Age of Briggs & Stratton* and *To The Dogs* (Arsenal Pulp Press).



Amber Dawn is a writer from Vancouver, Canada. Author of the memoir *How Poetry Saved My Life* (2013) and the Lambda Award-winning novel *Sub Rosa* (2010), and editor of the anthologies *Fist of the Spider Women: Fear and Queer Desire* (2009) and *With A Rough Tongue* (2005). Her work has been published widely in Canadian and the USA literary magazine, most recently *SubTerrain*, *Event*, *Prism International*, *Room*, *Plenitude*, *Matrix*, *Poetry is Dead*, and *ADRIENNE A Poetry Journal of Queer Women*. Amber Dawn was 2012 winner of the Writers' Trust of Canada Dayne Ogilvie Prize for LGBT writers and and the 2012 winner of the Eli Coppola Memorial Chapbook Award. In 2013, she was presented with the Vancouver Book Award. Currently, she teaches creative writing at Douglas College and the University of British Columbia, and is working on a second speculative fiction novel.



Chris Hancock Donaldson is a poet, photographer and occasional actor. She has developed her writing skills with the help of Betsy Warland, Susan Stenson, John Lent and Patrick Lane. In 2013, she was a featured reader at Words on Fire in Port Alberni and at Wordstorm in Nanaimo. Chris is published in an anthology edited by Patrick Lane. Chris's photography was used on the cover of *Poems from Planet Earth* edited by Yvonne Blomer and Cynthia Woodman Kerkham. She recently took photos of Patrick Lane and Lorna Crozier at home for a special issue of the Federation of BC Writer's magazine. Her photo story, "When Light Hits the Body," was part of the 2014 Alberni Valley Fringe Festival. www.chrishancockdonaldson.com



David Fraser is a poet, spoken-word performer, publisher and editor. His poetry has appeared in many journals and anthologies, including *Rocksalt*, *An Anthology of Contemporary BC Poetry* (Mother Tongue Press), *Poems from Planet Earth* (Leaf Press), *Walk Myself Home* (Caitlin Press) and forthcoming in *Tesseract 18*, 2015. He has published five collections of poetry, most recently *Paper Boats*, 2012. In addition David has co-authored with Naomi Beth Wakan, *On Poetry*, an inspirational book on poetics and poetry and has recently completed a response poem collection, *Maybe We Could Dance*, with poet Pat Smekal. His forthcoming collection of poetry, *After All the Scissor Work is Done* will be published by Leaf Press in the fall of 2015.



Kim Goldberg is an award-winning poet, journalist, spoken-word performer, and the author of six books. Her *Red Zone* collection of poems about urban homelessness has been taught in university literature courses. Her previous collection, *Ride Backwards on Dragon*, was a finalist for Canada's Gerald Lampert Award. She is a winner of the Rannu Fund Poetry Prize for Speculative Literature, the Goodwin's Award for Excellence in Alternative Journalism, and other distinctions. Kim holds a degree in biology and has written extensively on environmental topics. Her nonfiction book *Refugium*, about people living with electrosensitivity and the perils of electro-pollution, will be published in 2015. She lives in Nanaimo, BC, and online at <http://pigsquash.wordpress.com/>.



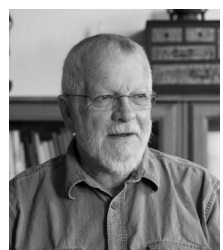
Philip Gordon is a creative writing student from Vancouver Island, recipient of the 2014 Kevin Roberts poetry award, an editor of the literary magazines *Ash Tree Journal* and *Text* (launching in September, 2014), and reader for *PANK*. His work has been published in *The Puritan*, *theNewYork*, *The Suburban Review*, (parenthetical), *The YOLO Pages*, and in numerous other places. Philip is a romantic dork, lover of shades, and proponent of the Oxford Comma. He can be stalked at twitter.com/greymusic_ and grey-music.tumblr.com



Garry Gottfriedson is from Kamloops, BC. He is a self-employed rancher from the Secwepemc Nation. Gottfriedson is strongly rooted in his cultural teachings. He is currently the Principal at the Sk'elep School of Excellence in Kamloops. He holds a Masters Degree in Education. In 1987, the Naropa Institute in Boulder, Colorado awarded a Creative Writing Scholarship to Gottfriedson. There, he studied under Allen Ginsberg, Marianne Faithful and others. Gottfriedson has 8 published books. He has read from his work across Canada, United States, Europe, and Asia. His work has been anthologized and published nationally and internationally.



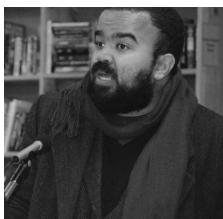
Brenda Hillman has published eight collections of poetry, all from Wesleyan University Press: *White Dress* (1985), *Fortress* (1989), *Death Tractates* (1992), *Bright Existence* (1993), *Loose Sugar* (1997), *Cascadia* (2001), *Pieces of Air in the Epic* (2005), and *Practical Water* (2009), for which she won the LA Times Book Award for Poetry; and three chapbooks: *Coffee, 3 A.M.* (Penumbra Press, 1982); *Autumn Sojourn* (Em Press, 1995); and *The Firecage* (a+bend press, 2000). Her ninth collection of poetry, *Seasonal Works with Letters on Fire* (2013), was longlisted for the 2013 National Book Award for Poetry, won the Northern California Book Award for Poetry and won the 2014 Griffin Prize. Dean Rader wrote, “*Seasonal Works With Letters On Fire* is a profoundly humane work. In language that moves from the chatty to the experimental to the heightened to the rhetorical.”



Sam Hamill is the author of eighteen volumes of poetry including *Habitation: Collected Poems*, four collections of literary essays, and some of the most distinguished translations of ancient Chinese and Japanese classics of the last half-century. He is Founding Editor, and for thirty-two years was Editor, at Copper Canyon Press. He taught in prisons for fourteen years and has worked with battered women and children. In 2003, declining an invitation to the White House, he founded Poets Against the War, compiling the largest single-theme poetry anthology in history: 30,000 poems by 26,000 poets. He has been awarded fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Guggenheim Foundation, the Woodrow Wilson Foundation, the Mellon Fund, and the Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission. His work has been translated into a dozen languages. He lives in Anacortes, Washington.



Graham Isaac grew up at various points along Puget Sound, most in Seattle. He writes, performs, and organizes in Seattle, occasionally bopping up to Bellingham or to Swansea, Wales to do things there. His writing has appeared in *HO...ARSE*, *Your Hands, Your Mouth*, *Beat the Dust*, and *As Much As We've Put In: A Poetry Night Anthology* and he just released *Filthy Jerry's Guide to Parking Lots*, with Babel/Salvage press. Isaac helps curate the Greenwood Lit Crawl, Da'Daedal and Claustrophobia reading series around Seattle and eventually his visual art will be hanging at King Donuts in Rainier Beach.



Robert Lashley is the author *The Homeboy Songs* (Small Doggies Press, April 2014). A semi finalist for the PEN/Rosenthal fellowship, Lashley has had poems published in such Journals as *Feminete*, *No Regrets*, and *Your Hands, Your Mouth*. His work was also featured in *Many Trails To The Summit*, an anthology of Northwest form and Lyric poetry. To quote James Baldwin, he wants to be an honest man and a good writer.



Christine Leclerc is a Vancouver-based author and activist. She is the author of *Counterfeit* (2008) and *Oilywood* (2013) as well as being an editor of (2004) and *The Enpipe Line: 70,000+ km of poetry written in resistance to the Northern Gateway pipeline proposal* (2010). Leclerc is University of British Columbia Creative Writing Program graduate whose poetry, fiction and essays have appeared internationally. She is a Communications Manager by day and has been known to lead community theatre at corporate headquarters and occupy oil rigs at sea.



Brandon Letsinger is a sitting board member for the Cascadia Association Football Federation, and the founder and director for CascadiaNow! It's his goal to build Cascadia as a powerful tool for positive change in the Pacific Northwest. In the past, he has worked and taught in Beijing, China, lived and learned in Italy and Tunisia, and most recently completed a fundraising program from the University of Washington. He is excited to be working with this year's 2015 Cascadia Poetry Festival in Nanaimo, BC.



Christine Lowther is the author of *Born Out of This* (Caitlin Press), *New Power* (Broken Jaw Press), *My Nature* (Leaf Press), and *Half-Blood Poems* (Zossima Press). She is co-editor and co-author of *Writing the West Coast: In Love with Place* (Ronsdale Press) and *Living Artfully: Reflections from the Far West Coast* (The Key Publishing House). Her work has appeared in *Force Field: 77 Women Poets of British Columbia*, *Lake, Quills*, *Poetry is Dead*, *subTerrain*, *Other Voices*, *The New Quarterly*, *The Fiddlehead*, and on Poetry-in-Transit. She lives in Clayoquot Sound on Vancouver Island.



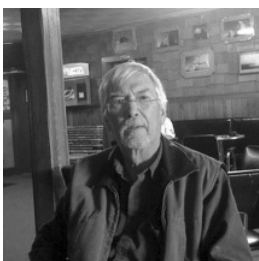
Nadine Antoinette Maestas earned her Ph.D. from the University of Washington where she wrote a dissertation on Postmodern Anthropoetics. She also holds an M.F.A. from University of Michigan where she was awarded the Hopwood Farrar award for playwriting. Her hybrid poem-play "Hellen on Wheels: a Play of Rhyme and Reason" was performed at California College of the Arts. She is the co-author with Karen Weiser of "Beneath the Bright Discus" (Potes & Poets Press, 2000) and has published poems in *Pageboy Magazine*, *The Germ*, and *Poor Mojo's Almanac(k)*.



Dr. David D. McCloskey is an Emeritus Professor of Seattle University. He taught in the Sociology/Anthropology Department as well as in the Ecological Studies program for over three decades (1971-2004). A long-time bioregionalist who has spoken and written widely on the subject and Cascadia, he is the founder and director of the Cascadia Institute. He created the first maps of "The Ish River Country" (now officially the "Salish Sea") and of Cascadia, the Ecoregions of Cascadia, as well as the soon to be published, "Bioregions of Western North America." He is currently releasing new GIS-based small and large maps of the bioregion. He has been acknowledged as the "Father of Cascadia". Among other accomplishments, he is the first to conceive of "Cascadia Poetry" and to initiate a region-wide decades' long search for its possibilities, editing an anthology, "Mountains, Rivers, Sea, and Sky."



Leanne McIntosh lives in Nanaimo. Her poems have been published in literary journals, anthologies, chapbooks and she has been included in the Island Illustrators Society journal, *Coastal Moments* as well as the Gabriola Arts Council collaboration of photographs and poetry. She has an interest in Japanese and Chinese poetry and she has received Honourable Mention for her haiku in Haiku Canada's Betty Drevniok Award as well as haibun selected for a Haiku Canada Sheet. She is a founding member of Island Women Poets and has facilitated poetry at the Nanaimo Brain Injury Society. Leanne has published three books of poetry, *The Sound the Sun Makes* and *Liminal Space*, published by Oolichan Books and *Dark Matter*, Leaf Press, 2013.



Barry McKinnon was born in 1944 in Calgary Alberta, where he grew up. He graduated in 1967 with a B.A. degree. In 1969, he graduated with an M.A. from the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, and was hired that same year to teach English at the College of New Caledonia in Prince George where he has lived and worked ever since. Barry McKinnon's *The the* was nominated for the Governor General's Award for poetry in 1980. *Pulp Log* was the winner of the Dorothy Livesay Poetry Award for the B.C. Book Prizes in 1991 and *Arrhythmia* was the winner of the bp Nichol Chapbook Award for the best chapbook published in Canada in English in 1994. His chapbook *Surety Disappears* was the runner-up for the bp Nichol Award in 2008.



Mary Ann Moore is a Nanaimo poet and writer whose book of poetry, *Fishing for Mermaids*, was published by Leaf Press in 2014. Her poetry has appeared in *Room*, *Freefall*, *Vallum*, *Carousel*, and various anthologies including *Poems from Planet Earth* (Leaf Press, 2013). She regularly writes book reviews for the *Vancouver Sun* and offers writing circles including Poetry as a Doorway In. . and a Welcome Home as well as a weekly women's writing circle called Writing Life. Mary Ann is on the WordStorm Society of the Arts board of directors and on the Cascadia Poetry Festival 3 planning committee. She writes a blog at apoetsnanaimo.ca.



Susan Musgrave has received awards in six different categories of writing: poetry, fiction, non-fiction, personal essay, children's writing and for her work as an editor. She has published close to 30 books; her most recent novel is *Given*; latest poetry collection *Origami Dove*. Musgrave won the Spirit Bear Award in 2012: The tribute recognizes the significance of a vital and enduring contribution to the poetry of the Pacific Northwest. "Her artistic presence over the past 40 years has helped create who we are. She is as important to us as Emily Carr."



Paul Nelson founded SPLAB in Seattle and the Cascadia Poetry Festival. Author of Organic Poetry (essays), a serial poem re-enacting history, *A Time Before Slaughter* (shortlisted for a 2010 Genius Award by The Stranger) and *Organic in Cascadia: A Sequence of Energies*. He has interviewed Allen Ginsberg, Michael McClure, Sam Hamill, Robin Blaser, Nate Mackey, Joanne Kyger, Brenda Hillman, presented poetry/poetics in London, Brussels, Nanaimo, Qinghai & Beijing, China, has had work translated into Spanish, Chinese & Portuguese & writes an American Sentence every day. He has published work in *Golden Handcuffs Review*, *Zen Monster*, *Hambone*, and elsewhere. Winner of the 2014 Robin Blaser Award from The Capilano Review, he lives in Seattle with his wife Meredith and youngest daughter Ella Roque. <http://paulnelson.com/>



Missie Peters is an award-winning spoken word performer from Victoria, BC. She is a two-time Victoria Slam Champion, the former slam master, one half of the improvised spoken word duo SpeakEasy and the director of Not Your Grandma's Poetry. She currently produces the annual Victoria Spoken Word Festival. Her poetry finds the personal in the political and finds the metaphor in the mundane. She is also a huge science fiction geek.



Dan Raphael has been active in Pacific Northwest poetry for over 3 decades as poet, performer, editor (26 Books and NRG Magazine,) and reading arranger. *The State I'm In* (nine muses) and *Impulse & Warp: The Selected 20th Century Poems* (Wordcraft of Oregon) are the most recent of his 18 published collections. Current poems appear in *Caliban*, *Otoliths*, *Phantom Drift*, *Great Weather for Media*, *Big Bridge* and *Basalt*. He has given over 200 performances, including Bumbershoot, Powell's Books, Reed College, Elliot Bay Books, Wordstock and the Portland Jazz Festival.



Harold Rhenisch: Over the last three decades Harold Rhenisch has published twenty-seven books of poetry, environmental writing, social criticism, memoir and stories, and has won numerous writing awards, including The George Ryga Prize for Social Responsibility in British Columbia Literature, the Malahat Review Long Poem Prize, and a CBC Literary Prize, for his sequence of Pow-wow inspired poetry, "Catching a Snare Drum at the Fraser's Mouth." For the last three years he has been writing the cross-border environmental blog www.okanaganokanogan.com, which merges science, photography and poetry into a vision for sustainable environmental technology. It is a springboard for two new book projects, a collection of Cascadia poems called *The Salmon Shanties* and a bioregional book about the history and culture of the Columbia Plateau and the salmon of Nk'mip, called *Father Pandosy's Mission*.



Janet Marie Rogers is a Mohawk/Tuscarora writer from the Six Nations band in southern Ontario. She was born in Vancouver British Columbia and has been living on the traditional lands of the Coast Salish people (Victoria, British Columbia) since 1994. Janet works in the genres of poetry, spoken word performance poetry, video poetry and recorded poetry with music and script writing. Janet has three published poetry collections to date; *Splitting the Heart*, Ekstasis Editions 2007, *Red Erotic*, Ojistah Publishing 2010, *Unearthed*, Leaf Press 2011. Her newest collection *Peace in Duress* will be released with Talon Books in September 2014. Her poetry CDs *Firewater* 2009, *Got Your Back* 2012 and *6 Directions* 2013 all received nominations for Best Spoken Word Recording at the Canadian Aboriginal Music Awards, the Aboriginal Peoples Choice Music Awards and the Native American Music Awards. You can hear Janet on the radio as she hosts Native Waves Radio on CFUV fm and Tribal Clefs on CBC radio one fm in Victoria BC. <http://soundcloud.com/janet-marie-rogers>



Jay Ruzesky's fiction, poetry, and non-fiction has been published in Canada and internationally and translated into Spanish, Portuguese, and Russian. His previous books include *Blue Himalayan Poppies*, *Painting the Yellow House Blue*, and *Am I Glad To See You*. His first novel, *The Wolsenburg Clock*, was shortlisted for the City of Victoria Butler Book Prize and a ReLit Award. He has been on the editorial board of *The Malahat Review* for over twenty years and is co-founder of Outlaw Editions. He teaches English, Film Studies, and Creative Writing at Vancouver Island University and lives on Vancouver Island.



Renée Sarojini Saklikar writes *thecanadaproject*, a life-long poem chronicle that includes poetry, fiction, and essays. Work from *thecanadaproject* appears in literary journals, newspapers, and anthologies, including, *ti-TCR / a web folio* (*The Capilano Review*), *Literary Review of Canada*, *The Vancouver Review*, *Geist*, *Poetry is Dead*, *SubTerrain*, *Arc Poetry Magazine*, *The Georgia Straight* and *Ryga*, a journal of provocations. The first completed series from *thecanadaproject* is a book length poem, *children of air india*, (Nightwood Editions, 2013) about the bombing of Air India Flight 182 shortlisted for the Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize, 2014.



George Stanley was active on the San Francisco poetry scene in the 1960s. He moved to British Columbia in 1971, and has published nine books of poetry (and several chapbooks) in BC, while also teaching English for twenty-six years in BC community colleges. He is now retired and living in Vancouver. His most recent books are *Vancouver: A Poem* (2008), *After Desire* (2013), and *North of California St.* (Selected Poems 1975-1999) (2014), all from New Star Books of Vancouver.



Sharon Thesen, a poet and editor, is professor emerita of Creative Writing at the University of British Columbia, Okanagan. Her research interests include American mid-century and projectivist poetics and the Canadian long poem. She has published nine books of poetry, most recently *Oyama Pink Shale*, *The Good Bacteria*, and *A Pair of Scissors*. She has edited two editions of *The New Long Poem Anthology*, an award-winning selected poems of Phyllis Webb, *The Vision Tree*, and, with Ralph Maud, Charles Olson and Frances Boldereff: *A Modern Correspondence*. She was an editor of *The Capilano Review* when she was teaching English at Capilano College (now University) and continues as one of its contributing editors; at UBC Okanagan she co-edited *Lake: A Journal of Arts and Environment*.



Anastacia Tolbert's work is a syrupy rune—wings, words & why not. She is a Cave Canem Fellow, Hedgebrook Alumna, Jack Straw Writer, EDGE Professional Writer, VONA alum, creative writing workshop facilitator, documentarian and playwright. She is writer, co-director, and co-producer of *GOTBREAST? Documentary* (2007): a documentary about the views of women regarding breast and body image. Lately she's been obsessed with the body & the stories it holds. Her poetry, fiction & nonfiction have been published widely. writer • performance artist • workshop facilitator <http://www.anastaciatolbert.com/>



Ursula Vaira grew up in northern BC. She has a passion for kayaking and for poetry, having found the two go well together. Caitlin Press published her first collection *And See What Happens* in 2011. Ursula is the owner and editor of Leaf Press that published chapbooks and perfect bound collections of Canadian poetry.



Naomi Beth Wakan is the inaugural Poet Laureate of Nanaimo (2013). She has published over 50 books. Her essays are in *Late Bloomer-on writing later in life*; *Composition: notes on the written word*; *Bookends – a year between the covers*; and *A Roller-coaster ride – Thoughts on aging* (all from Wolsak and Wynn). Her poetry books include *Sex after 70* and other poems and *And After 80...* (both from Bevalia Press). *Some Sort of Life*, is her recent book of memoirs (2014). Naomi is a member of The League of Canadian Poets, Haiku Canada and Tanka Canada. She lives on Gabriola Island with her husband, the sculptor, Elias Wakan. <http://www.naomiwakan.com/>



Ann Graham Walker is a journalist and former Canadian Broadcasting Corporation radio producer who moved to British Columbia in 2002 and began honing her poetry. She has studied with Patrick Lane, at his Glenairley and Honeymoon Bay retreats and has been a finalist in the Prism International and Malahat Open Season Award poetry contests. Her work has been published in literary magazines and in various anthologies, including *Rocksalt* and *Poems from Planet Earth*. Her chapbook *The Puzzle at the End of Love* was published by Leaf Press in 2012. Ann has an MFA in Creative Writing from Goddard College's Port Townsend (Washington) campus.



Sebastien Wen is a poet and spoken word artist based out of Vancouver. He is the 2014 Vancouver Youth Slam Champion and the 2013 UBC Slam Champion. He represented UBC in the 2013 Canadian Individual Poetry Slam Championships. His poetry has featured in journals such as *Arc*, *Ascent Aspirations*, *The Claremont Review*, *Cicada* and *Vallum*. He has featured as a performer in The Calgary International Spoken Word Festival, The People's Poetry Festival, The Verses Festival of Words, The Victoria Spoken Word Festival and at many other venues around Canada. Mostly he's just a robot searching for sparks.



Rita Wong is the author of three books of poetry: *sybil unrest* (co-written with Larissa Lai, Line Books, 2008), *forage* (Nightwood 2007, winner of Canada Reads Poetry 2011), and *monkeypuzzle* (Press Gang 1998). She lives on the unceded Coast Salish territories otherwise known as Vancouver, where her work investigates the relationships between contemporary poetics, social justice, ecology, and decolonization. Wong's poems have appeared in anthologies such as *Regreen: New Canadian Ecological Poetry*; *Prismatic Publics: Innovative Canadian Women's Poetry and Poetics*; *The Harbrace Anthology of Poetry*; *Making a Difference: Canadian Multicultural Literature*; and more. Her poem "J28" for IdleNoMore can be found in the journal *Decolonization: Indigeneity, Education and Society*: <http://decolonization.wordpress.com>. She has received the Asian Canadian Writers Workshop Emerging Writer Award and the Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize.

SPECIAL THANKS

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Thank you to Sherry Kirkvold who kindly offered to donate her brand new plush Vancouver Island Marmot to Cascadia Poetry Festival as the trophy for the Cascadia Marmot Bout.

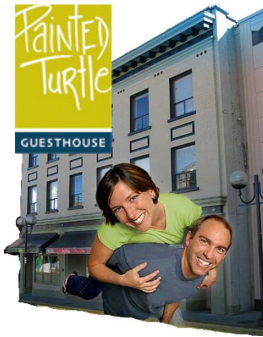
The 4th CASCADIA POETRY FESTIVAL

SAVE THE DATE: TBA
Probably April 29 to May 2
Mysteriously somewhere in Cascadia

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