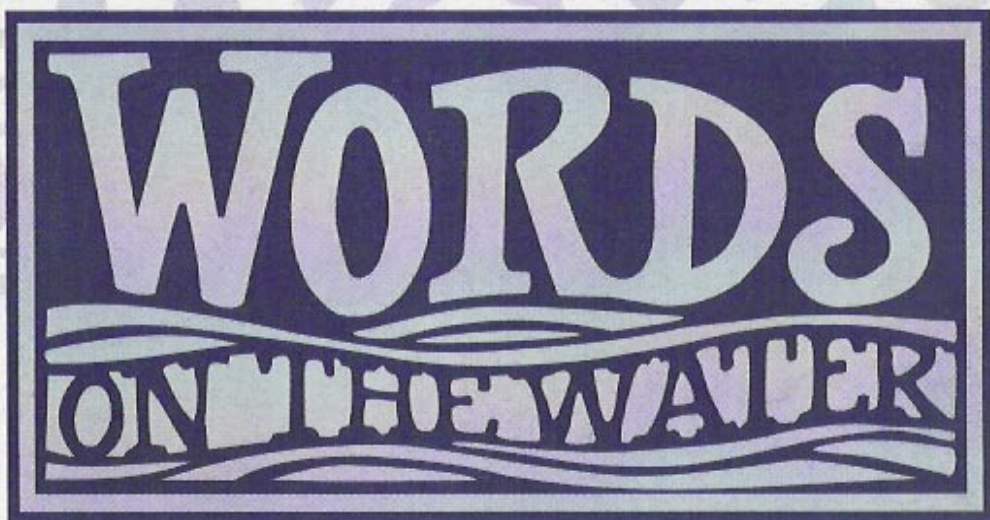
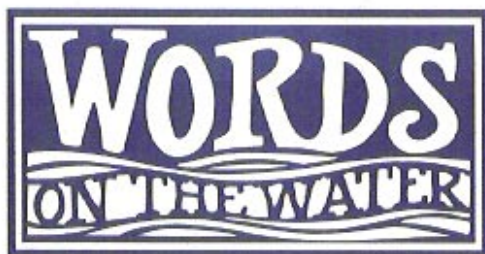




WRITERS' FESTIVAL 2005
MARCH 11TH - 13TH

Campbell River Writers' Festival Society

Campbell River - British Columbia



WELCOME TO WORDS ON THE WATER, 2005

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

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

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

(All events occur at the Maritime Heritage Centre)

Friday, March 11, 8:00 pm

Writers in Conversation

Hear each of the featured writers reading and talking about their work. These panel discussions will be hosted by Paul Grant

Saturday, March 12

Individual and Group Readings

9:00 am	Bill Gaston
10:00 am	Wayson Choy
11:00 am	Pete Trower
12:00 am	Irene Watts (in the Thulin room)
1:00 - 2:45 pm	Don McKay, Aislinn Hunter and Judith Williams
3:00 - 5:00 pm	Richard Van Camp, Marion Farrant, and Pauline Holdstock
8:00 pm	A Literary Cabaret, featuring all of the featured writers and special guest, Todd Butler

Sunday, March 13

10 am - 3 pm Fiction writing workshop with Richard Van Camp (pre-registration required).

Words on the Water is proud to have the participation of these special guests:

Paul Grant



Paul Grant is a member of that rarest of species, the native Vancouverite. He was born and raised when Vancouver was still a small town, and even spent part of his teenage years living at Point Atkinson lighthouse. When he was a teenager, Paul set out to see the world, or as much of it as he could reach by hitch-hiking. He worked as a cab driver, logger, pretzel salesman, cook and musician before starting his broadcasting career in 1979 as an

agriculture and fisheries producer with CBC Radio on PEI. Since 1985 Paul has been back home in Vancouver, where he is CBC Radio's national arts reporter and host of the long running jazz show, *Hot Air*.

In 2003, Paul and his wife Laurie Dickson, published *The Stanley Park Companion* (Bluefield), hailed by the Book Publishers of B.C. as "...a treasury of historical facts and fascinating anecdotes..." Paul was also co-host of the TV gardening series, *The Concrete Jungle*, which is still in perpetual syndication somewhere in the world.

Paul will bring his talents as a writer and broadcaster to his role as moderator and master of ceremonies at this year's *Words on the Water*.

Rodrigo



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

Todd Butler



Todd Butler is a completely self-taught, highly original guitarist and songwriter whose mastery of satire has helped him become recognized as one of Canada's funniest performers. He has the record for 'most guest performances' on CBC's *Madly Off In All Directions* and recently shot segments featuring his crazy satire for CBC TV's *This Hour Has 22 Minutes*. Butler is also a master 'MC' and has hosted many Festival mainstages. Until recently, his comedic skills have overshadowed his stunning abilities as a guitarist. Todd plays guitar outside "the box" and

revels in experimentation and improvisation when soloing. His ability to jam with other musicians in all styles of music is deservedly beginning to be realized as an equal asset to his song writing skills.

Words on the Water is excited to have Todd as a featured performer at Saturday night's Writers' Cabaret!

Wayson Choy



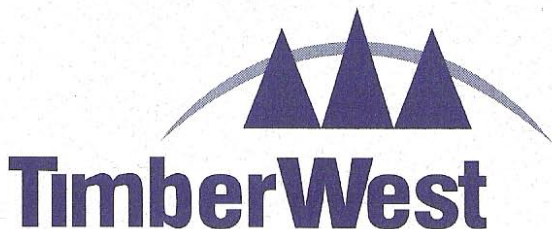
A native of Vancouver, Choy is not only a writer but a teacher, having recently retired after three decades with Humber College, where he was an instructor in the well-known creative writing programme. He has also been a volunteer teacher of adult literacy with Frontier College.

Wayson Choy's first novel, *The Jade Peony*, was "a genuine contribution to history as well as fiction" according to author Margaret Drabble. It spent 26 weeks on the *Globe and Mail* bestseller list, shared the 1995 Trillium Award with Margaret Atwood, and won the Vancouver Book Award. As well, it won the City of Vancouver Book Award in 1996 and was the inaugural winner of the Vancouver Public Library's "One Book, One Vancouver" competition in 2002. During a promotional tour for the novel, Choy learned that he had been adopted, a discovery that informs his second book, a memoir called *Paper Shadows: A Chinatown Childhood*. His new novel, *All That Matters*, is a sequel to *The Jade Peony*. Blending rich historical detail with powerful personal stories, *All That Matters* follows Kiam-Kim as he learns the responsibilities and rewards of family and community, as he approaches adulthood in a city much divided, and as he faces decisions about what truly matters in life. More than anything else, the novel is an exploration of his character. "I think all stories should arise organically from the characters' definitions of the world," says Wayson, who believes that it is in the identification of reader with character that literature exists. "If you give details that ring true...that's the meaning conveyed by good writing." *All That Matters* was nominated for the prestigious Giller Prize in 2004.

Mary-Ellen Lang Collura



Mary-Ellen Lang Collura's Young Adult novels have been published in many countries and languages in Europe and North America. Her first novel, *Winners*, won the Canadian Library Association's "Book of the Year", the "EBBEL" prize for fiction, the IODE best book award, and was short listed for the Governor General's award. Her second book *Sunny* won the Sheila Egoff BC Book award. She is currently working on the finishing touches of an adult novel, *Colouring Inside The Lines*, and writing a column for CBC called 'schooling'.



M.A.C. Farrant



Marion Farrant was born in Sydney, Australia, and raised in Cordova Bay on Vancouver Island. She attended Simon Fraser University and the University of Victoria. She is the author of eight critically acclaimed books: *My Turquoise Years* (Greystone Books, 2004) *Darwin Alone in the Universe* (Talonbooks, 2003), *Girls around the House* (Polestar, 1999), *What's True, Darling* (Polestar, 1997), *Word of Mouth* (Thistle-down, 1996), *Altered Statements* (Arsenal Pulp Press, 1995), *Raw Material* (Arsenal Pulp Press, 1993), and *Sick Pigeon* (Thistle-down, 1991).

M.A.C. Farrant's work has been short-listed for the Commonwealth Writers Prize, the Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize, and the VanCity Book Prize, and her stories have been adapted for both radio and television.

She is currently working on a comic non-fiction novel/memoir to be entitled *Life with the Poultry Queen* which will be published by Greystone/Douglas & McIntyre in 2006. She cites as her favorite pastimes, "... music, reading, study, walking, any beach, any coffee shop. Also, gazing and spinning as in aerobic workout on a stationary bike and not, I am hopeful, as in losing my mind."

Bill Gaston



Bill Gaston was born in 1953 and grew up in Winnipeg, Toronto and North Vancouver. Before teaching at various universities he worked as a logger, salmon fishing guide and group home worker. Currently teaching at the University of Victoria, where he has been since 1998, he spent the previous dozen years in the Maritimes, mostly at the University of New Brunswick. In New Brunswick he taught courses in undergraduate and graduate fiction, drama, screenwriting, and multimedia, became Director of the Creative Writing Programme, and, for a time, was editor of Canada's oldest literary journal, *The Fiddlehead*.

In 2003 Bill Gaston received the inaugural Timothy Findley Award for a Canadian male writer in mid-career. At the time he had published four novels -- *Tall Lives*, *The Cameraman*, *Bella Combe Journal* and *The Good Body* -- plus four collections of short fiction, including *Mount Appetite* which was nominated for the 2002 Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize and the Giller Prize -- and a collection of poetry, *Inviting Blindness*. His plays included *Yardsale*, *Ethnic Cleansing*, and *I Am Danielle Steel*.

His latest novel, *Sointula*, was published by Raincoast in 2004. It concerns a middle-aged mother who exchanges her comfortable city life for a kayak in order to search for her estranged son who has gravitated to the northern Vancouver Island community of Sointula

Bill is Currently working on an illustrated fiction collection, *Gargoyles*; a novel, *The Order of Good Cheer*; and a non-fiction book on old-timer hockey, *Slow Men on Thin Ice*.

Pauline Holdstock



Pauline Holdstock's first novel, *The Blackbird's Song*, was shortlisted for the W.H. Smith/Books in Canada First Novel Award in 1987 and subsequently published in the UK. She has followed with six more books of fiction with settings ranging, from 16th-century Italy to 19th-century Europe and North America, to a London of the near future. Originally from England, Holdstock came to Canada in 1974 and now lives in Sidney, BC..

Pauline Holdstock was recently nominated for a Giller Prize for her new novel, *Beyond Measure*.

Aislinn Hunter



Aislinn Hunter was born in Belleville, Ontario and currently resides in Vancouver. She has worked for the CBC and has taught at numerous university creative writing programs, including a recent season as Writer in Residence at Lancaster University in the UK, and her current position at Kwantlen University College. She is the author of three previous books which have all been shortlisted for, or won, major national awards. She is also one of the few authors in Canada who has found critical acclaim and a solid readership in poetry, novels and short fiction. *The Possible Past* is her second book of poetry.

Carol Neufeld



Carol has been writing poetry and teaching in the Comox Valley for the past 20 years.

Her latest book is *Drums and Colours*; it was preceded by *The Country Where Love Begins* and *Gusting to Ninety*.

Her poetry is strongly influenced by the natural world and often pivots on human drama. Forthcoming is a collection based on a visit to Ireland, particularly the Neolithic tomb of Newgrange.

Words on the Water is delighted to be able to showcase Carol's work in Saturday night's Literary Cabaret.

Don McKay



Don McKay was born in Owen Sound, Ontario, in 1942. He received a B.A. and M.A. from the University of Western Ontario and a Ph.D in Wales. He was a co-founder of Brick Books in 1975. He remains as an editor with Brick Books and he edited the *Fiddlehead* magazine from 1991 to 1996. He taught creative writing and English at the University of Western Ontario and the University of New Brunswick for 27 years. He has also served as a faculty resource person at the Sage Hill Writing Experience and The Banff Centre for the Arts. An avid birder, he moved to Victoria where he has been an adjunct professor at UVic's Department of Writing.

He has won the Governor General's Award for Poetry twice, in 1991 for *Night Field* and in 2000 for *Another Gravity*. His book *Vis à Vis: Fieldnotes on Poetry and Wilderness* was nominated for the Governor General's Award in the Non-fiction category. He has also been short-listed for the Griffin Prize. Currently Don is working a book of poems based largely in B.C. and obsessed with rocks to be entitled *Strike/Slip*.

Don is currently writer in residence at Campbell River's Haig-Brown House and a member of the *Words on the Water* organizing committee. He cites as a favorite quotation a line from local author Carol Neufeld: "The truth is, I believe the problems of all nations, every kind of hurt, can be assuaged by a competent bookseller."

Pete Trower



Peter Trower was born at St. Leonard's-on-Sea, England, in 1930. He immigrated to British Columbia at age ten, following the death of his test-pilot father in a plane crash. His mother married a West Coast pulp mill superintendent who drowned soon after. Trower quit school to work as a logger for twenty-two years. Since 1971, he has published twelve books of poetry and contributed to several issues of *Raincoast Chronicles* and *Vancouver Magazine*. Poetry collections such as *Moving Through Mystery* (1969), *Between the Sky and the Splinters* (1974), *The Alders and Others* (1969) and *Ragged Horizons* (1978) express his admiration and resentment at the magisterial power of nature. *The Judas Hills* (2000) is his third novel on the West Coast logging life, after *Grogan's Cafe* and *Dead Man's Ticket* (1997). In 2002, Peter Trower received the eighth Terasen Lifetime Achievement Award for an Outstanding Literary Career in British Columbia. Trower lives in Gibsons, British Columbia.



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Richard Van Camp



Richard Van Camp is a proud member of the Dogrib (Tlicho) Nation from Fort Smith, Northwest Territories. Richard has taught Creative Writing for Aboriginal Students at UBC for three years and will be teaching Storytelling and Presentation Skills at the Justice Institute this summer. He has given writing workshops nationally for the past five years. This year Richard will be teaching writing and storytelling at the Brisbane Writers' Festival.

Richard is the author of **The Lesser Blessed**, a novel, *Angel Wing Splash Pattern*, a collection of short stories, and two children's books with Creed artist *George Littlechild: A Man Called Raven* and *What's the Most Beautiful Thing You Know About Horses?* Three of Richard's radio dramas have been produced with CBC's

Radio One and he has co-written a movie, *The Promise* for Neohaus Filmworks in San Diego.

A recipient of the Queen Elizabeth Golden Jubilee Commemorative Medal for his career as a storyteller and author, Richard also received the Canadian Author's Association Air Canada Award for the most promising Canadian author "under 30".

Irene Watts



Born in Berlin, Germany in 1931, Irene Watts is a co-founder of the Vancouver International Children's Festival. She came to Alberta from the U.K. in 1968, arrived in B.C. in 1976 and has since published numerous drama-related titles for children starting with *A Chain of Words*, a collection of six Japanese folktales in 1978. In the 1980s she released several titles with the Playwrights' Union, including an adaptation of Robert Munsch's stories. Other titles are *The Great Detective Party*, *Just a Minute* and *Making Stories*. *A Telling Time* recalls the Biblical story of Purim from the Book of Esther. Her anthology *Tapestry of Hope*, co-edited by Lilian Boraks-Nemetz, includes writing from Jewish Canadian writers such as Ellen Schwartz, Karen Levine, Kathy

Kacer, Mordecai Richler and Leonard Cohen. It won the Canadian Jewish Book Award, a

Yad Vashem award for Holocaust Studies and was nominated for the BC Book Prize for Young Adult Fiction and for the Canadian Library Association Award for Young Adult Fiction. She has won three Canadian Jewish Book Awards. She lives in White Rock and conducts drama workshops for teachers and students.

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Judith Williams



Judith Williams is a teacher, artist and author. Her books include *High Slack*, *Two Wolves at the Dawn of Time*, and *Dynamite Stories*. In *High Slack*, (New Star, 1995) she explored the conflict generated between natives and newcomers in 1864 when entrepreneur Alfred Waddington attempted to build a road up Bute Inlet to the Chilcotin gold fields. *Two Wolves at the Dawn of Time* concerns the Kwakwaka'wakw pictographs of Kingcome Inlet and their relationship to the Canadian Government's ban on native Potlatch ceremonials, while *Dynamite Stories* is a collection of tales about how dynamite played a role in the lives of people in the area of Refuge Cove. Her most recent project, *Clam Gardens*, is a narrative of the recent search for evidence of the existence of ancient native mariculture on the Pacific Northwest Coast and will be published in the spring of this year.

Born in 1940, Williams is a member of the Refuge Cove Land and Housing Co-op. She divides her time between Vancouver, where she was Assistant Professor of Fine Arts at UBC until 2001, and Refuge Cove on West Redonda Island. She is the chairman of The Desolation Sound Salmon Enhancement Society.

Annette Yourk



Annette Yourk lives, works and plays on Quadra Island most of the time. Her fictions, vignettes and articles have appeared in anthologies, newspapers, magazines and on radio. She also enjoys writing and reading poetry. Human nature, the environment, and the compulsive need to communicate keep her coming back to the page.

This is Annette's second appearance at *Words on the Water*. She will be featured in Saturday night's Literary Cabaret.



CAMPBELL RIVER DAYBREAK ROTARY

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

Roderick Haig-Brown



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

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

Words on the Water Organizing Committee

John Elson
Colin Gabelmann
Robin Geary

Craig Gillis
Don McKay
Ruth McMonagle

Trevor McMonagle
Chris Round
Sherry Sprungman

Words on the Water Sponsors

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

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Weyerhaeuser
Drs Arnold & McFadden
Cecil Baldry White
Dr Richard Patterson

Volunteers

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



New Words on Water

It has become a tradition that each year *Words on the Water* should commission an original poem from one of the writers attending the festival. Past years have yielded works by legendary Canadian poet Patrick Lane and, in response, Poet Laureate George Bowering. Last year's poem, *The New Design*, was by local poet Erin Skye Robinsong. This year, *Words on the Water* is proud to present a new work by two-time Governor General Award winning poet, Don McKay.

Full Moon, Campbell River

It calls infinity from the grass
and frosts each blade.
Burnishes the current. Separates trees
into ghost-self and shadow-self. In its grip
loneliness sheds its longing for a friend
to walk by the water, to listen
in its own tongue, uninhabited,
immaculate. All body
belongs to the river, black-silver,
micro-muscled, its inchoate creatures
urging in and out of incarnation, otter-back
seal-back, flank, snakeskin, someone's left arm
arcing by the far shore, overseen by squat
swart psychopompic gulls --
me interrupting, whoa,
whoa, let's go inside and get warm,
let's listen to Ideas on the CBC --
while loneliness
goes on intoning, river, river,
unsayer of sameness, undersong,
anti-information, river in whom no one --
not the myth-teller, not the holy fool,
not the mad entranced
fly fisherman --
steps twice, only the dubious gods and the divine
spectacularly mortal salmon

Don McKay
Haig-Brown House, 2005

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