



Words on the Water

Campbell River Writers' Festival
March 30 and 31, 2007

WE ARE MADE OF MOSTLY WATER

Every time we speak,
our words are mist, are rain,
clear rivulets chattering

over sand and gravel,
over bones laid deep
in the earth. Sometimes

our words are snow.
Cold alphabets slap the cheeks,
the sting of winter slipping

from your tongue to mine,
and everything inside us
freezes shut. We speak then

as the dead do, all
the rivers knotted with ice,
our mouths odd

with cold and urgently dry
from the effort of making
no sad sound.

Lorna Crozier

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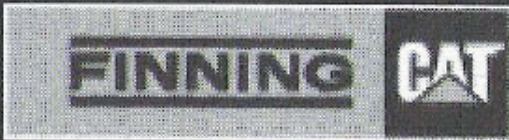
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City of
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River**

Welcome to Words on the Water 2007

Our 6th annual festival presents a diverse and distinguished group of writers whose recent works of poetry and prose span the gambit from humourous to historic, factual to fictional, psychological to ecological. You are invited to stop your busy lives and enjoy the view and your time with writers who are current in the Canadian cultural profile.

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, March 30 8PM



Master of Ceremonies John Elson



Words on the Water 2007 commissioned poem Lorna Crozier



Why Tell the Truth? Ryan Knighton, Myrna Kostash, John Vaillant



Poet X 2 Lorna Crozier, Garry Gottfriedson



Why Make it Up? Des Kennedy, Kathy Page, Carol Windley



Music: The JohnErik Jazz Quartet

All festival events take place at the Maritime Heritage Centre

Saturday, March 31

Morning

9:00 Des Kennedy

9:45 Garry Gottfriedson

10:30 Break

10:45 Ryan Knighton

11:30 Carol Windley

12:15 Lunch Break

Afternoon

1:00 Myrna Kostash

1:45 Lorna Crozier

2:30 Break

2:45 John Vaillant

3:30 Kathy Page

Evening

8:00 Literary Cabaret

Featuring:

Guest Writers

Music: Rosemary DeCook

Bill Young

No Host Bar

Catering: Save On Foods



Lorna Crozier

Lorna Crozier published her first poem in *Grain* magazine, a publication that turned her life toward writing.

Her first collection, Inside is the Sky, was published in 1976. She has authored 14 books of poetry including The Garden Going on Without Us; Angels of Flesh; Angels of Silence; Inventing the Hawk (winner of the Governor General's Award); Everything Arrives at the Light; Apocrypha of Light; What the Living Won't Let Go, and most recently Whetstone. Whether Crozier is writing about angels, aging, or Louis Armstrong's trout sandwich, she engages readers and writers across Canada and the world with her grace, wisdom and wit. She is, as Margaret Laurence wrote, "a poet to be grateful for." Since the beginning of her writing career, Lorna Crozier has been known for her inspired teaching and mentoring of other poets. Presently she lives near Victoria, where she teaches and serves as Chair of the Writing Department at the University of Victoria.



Garry Gottfriedson

Garry Gottfriedson's skills cover many bases. He is a rancher and professional breeder of quarter horses who has studied creative writing with Alan Ginsberg and Marianne Faithful. He has taught at Cariboo College and served as a councilor and consultant for the Kamloops Indian Band. Gottfriedson's

published works include One Hundred Years of Contact, followed by In Honour of Our Grandmothers: Imprints of Cultural Survival. Glass Tepee, his first poetry collection, contains cryptic and lyrical perspectives based on his Secwepemc heritage. Described as eloquent, poignant and witty, Gottfriedson's newest collection of poetry, Whiskey Bullets, explores themes of duality in the parallel world of cowboys and Indians. This volume speaks to the unique experience of growing up aboriginal while remaining immersed in cowboy and ranching culture. Gottfriedson unveils hidden truths, bringing to the fore inescapable issues of gender, sexuality, race and politics. Candid and challenging, Whiskey Bullets is thought-provoking and deeply engaging.

WOW Student Outreach Program

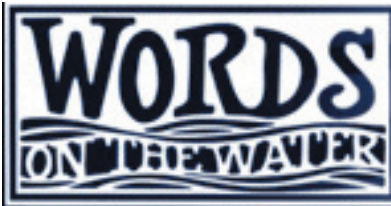
Thanks to the joint sponsorship of School District #72 and the Campbell River Daybreak Rotary Club, John Vaillant will offer readings and a writers' workshop to high school students on Friday, March 30.

Words on the Water Volunteers

Muriel Arnold	Carrie Bahm	Chris Button	George Delgatty
Shannon Graham	Terry Hale	Gabriella Lang	Lesley Matthews
Kaitlin Monkman	Josette Pernu	Wayne Pernu	Nickie Polson
Deb Rizun	Ken Stone	Lynn Stone	Francine Theoret

Words on the Water Organizing Committee

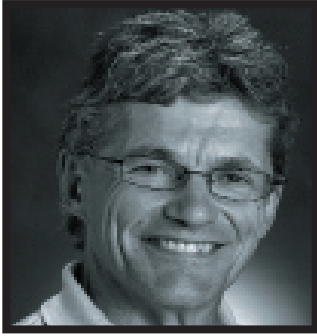
Craig Gillis	Myrna Kostash	Ruth McMonagle
Trevor McMonagle	Terry Moist	Chris Round
Sherry Sprungman		Patricia Trasolini



Logo
Designed by
Lesley Mathews

WOW 2008

April 4 and 5



John Elson

Master of Ceremonies

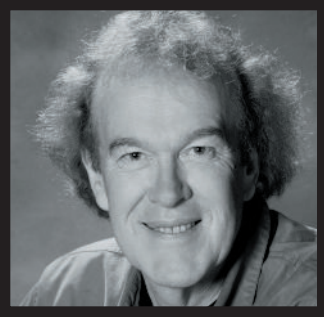
John Elson's intelligent wit has caused him to become the popular official host of the Words on the Water Writers' Festival. A master Social Studies teacher, John is currently on loan from School District #72 to mentor student teachers in the Faculty of Education at Simon Fraser University.



ANN AND RODERICK HAIG-BROWN

Roderick Haig-Brown was a writer and conservationist with an international reputation. He was also a local judge, university chancellor, father and community steward. In 1934 he married Ann Elmore, a woman of formidable intellect, who became a teacher and community activist, and they settled on the banks of the Campbell River. The Haig-Browns were philosophers who carefully considered their place in the world. Roderick's writing and Ann's humanitarian work continue to have an influence in this community today. This writers' festival, for example, was inspired by the Haig-Brown legacy.





Des Kennedy

Des Kennedy is an award-winning journalist, broadcaster, author and environmental activist who is widely known across Canada. For the past 20 years, he has contributed feature articles on environmental issues, gardening and rural living to a wide variety of publications in Canada and the United States. He is the critically acclaimed author of three books of essays and two novels. His second novel, Flame of Separation, was released in the spring of '04. The *Globe and Mail* praised the novel's "vivid imagery, and its unfolding human mystery that has plenty of pleasing twists and turns and eventually presents something subtle yet perfectly in line with Kennedy's theme of the extraordinary dwelling within the mundane." His latest book, The Passionate Gardner: Adventures of an Ardent Green Thumb, examines common idiosyncrasies and the collective chaos of garden clubs, as well as the great myths and illusions that inderpin the gardener's passion.



Ryan Knighton

Cockeyed is Knighton's hilarious and observant memoir about the trials and misadventures that inhabited his life from 18 - 33 while an untreatable genetic condition slowly blinded him. Stumbling literally and emotionally into darkness, into love and into adulthood, he effectively uses blindness to provide a window into the human condition. Irreverent, tragicomic and articulate along the way, the book was recently published internationally to rave reviews. *As Slow As Possible*, a soon to be released documentary that follows Knighton on an unorthodox road trip, shows his engaging talents as a speaker and storyteller and his belief that some of the profoundest lessons can be found in the most minor of occasions. Knighton is a faculty member in the English Department at Capilano College, where he teaches literature and writing, both creative and destructive.



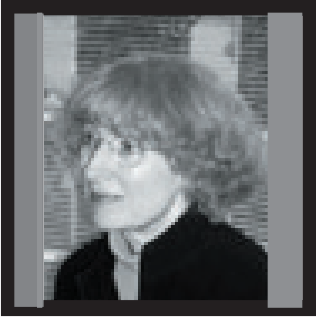
Myrna Kostash

Born and raised in Edmonton, Alberta, Myrna Kostash is a full-time writer who has published seven books including All of Baba's Children; Long Way From Home: The Story of the Sixties Generation in Canada; Bloodlines: A Journey Into Eastern Europe; The Doomed Bridegroom: A Memoir; and her most recent, Reading the River: A Traveller's Companion to the North Saskatchewan River. Kostash has written radio drama and documentary, television documentary and theatre cabaret. Her creative non-fiction has appeared in a variety of publications and has been translated into several languages. Kostash has taught writing at several Canadian universities and was Max Bell Professor of Journalism at the University of Regina and Ashley Fellow at Trent University. She has also served as President of the Writers' Guild of Alberta and Chair of the Writers' Union of Canada. Myrna is this year's Roderick Haig-Brown Writer-In-Residence.



Kathy Page

Kathy Page is the author of six novels including Alphabet which was nominated for the Governor General's Literary Award for Fiction in 2005. Alphabet has been described as "dark, disturbing and delicious." *Guardian* columnist Erwin James called it "...a wonderful book, peculiar, intense, revealing, challenging, exhausting - and above all, riveting." Her novel The Story of My Face was shortlisted for the Orange Prize in 2002. Complex characters and compelling narrative are Page's trademarks, as is suspense, both psychological and existential. Page has also written short fiction and script for radio and TV. She was born in the UK and is an accomplished workshop leader who has taught writing in universities and other institutions in the UK, Finland, Estonia - and now in Canada, where she has lived with her husband and two children since 2001.



Carol Windley

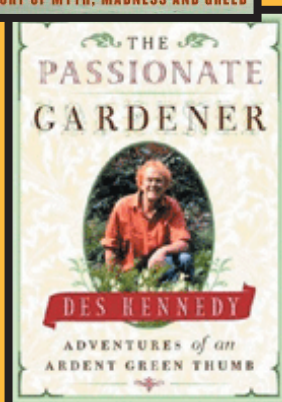
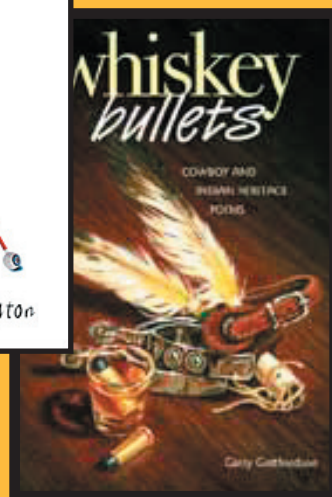
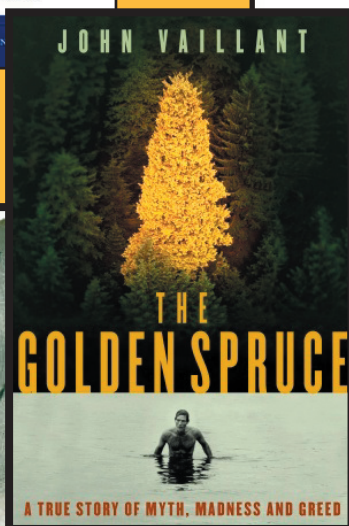
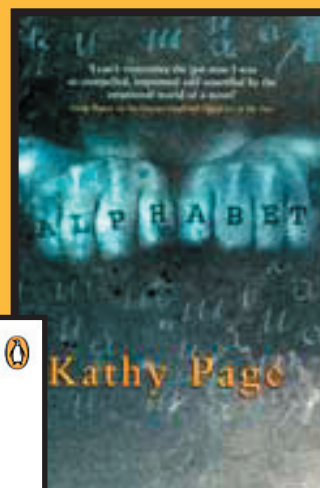
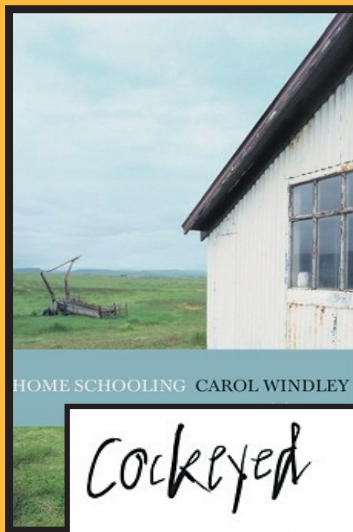
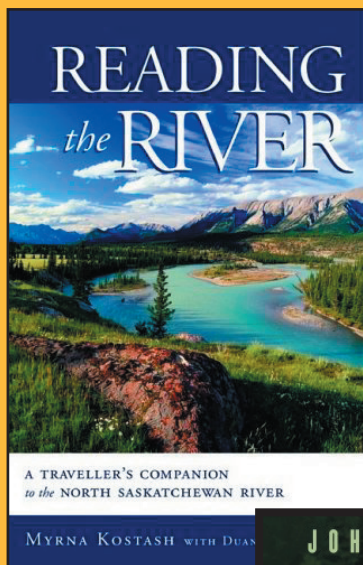
Carol Windley was born in Tofino on the west coast of Vancouver Island. She grew up in British Columbia and Alberta and has worked as a radio station copy writer, a librarian and as a creative writing instructor at Malaspina University College in Nanaimo, where she now lives. Her books include the award-winning debut collection of short stories, Visible Light, and the acclaimed novel, Breathing Underwater. Windley's most recent publication, Home Schooling, has attracted critics' attention. A collection of stories that was shortlisted for the Scotiabank Giller Prize, and has just been nominated for the Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize. When asked about her writing, Windley stated that she was motivated by "a desire to capture something of human experience in language. Fiction works like a mirror that reflects our moral and emotional truths and it's one of the few ways available to us to get a glimpse into someone else's interior life."



John Vaillant

John Vaillant has written for *The New Yorker*, *The Atlantic*, *Outside*, *National Geographic Adventure*, and *Men's Journal* among others. Of particular interest to Vaillant are stories that explore collisions between human ambition and the natural world.

His work in this and other fields has taken him to five continents and five oceans. The Golden Spruce, A True Story of Myth, Madness and Greed is his acclaimed first book. According to *Publishers' Weekly*, "through a vigorous, evocative style, Vaillant portrays the Pacific Northwest as a region of conflict and violence, from the battles between Europeans and Indians over the 18th-century sea otter trade to the hard-bitten, macho milieu of logging camps, where grisly death is an occupational hazard. It is also, in his telling, a land of virtually infinite natural resources overmatched by an even greater human rapaciousness. Vaillant paints a haunting portrait of man's vexed relationship with nature."



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