

CAMPBELL RIVER WRITERS' FESTIVAL



2013

FRIDAY MARCH 15TH &
SATURDAY MARCH 16TH
MARITIME HERITAGE CENTRE

Welcome to Words on the Water 2013

Welcome to the 2013 *Words on the Water* Writers' Festival. Our goal is to present a variety of excellent writers to engage your minds and hearts. We invite you to accept the challenge of the poem by our Canadian Poet Laureate, Fred Wah, delight in the slate of writers who represent our rich West Coast culture, and connect with our writers through their readings. Please enjoy the food and music as you form new memories and friendships.

The Words on the Water Committee - 2013

Festival Schedule of Events

All events take place at the Maritime Heritage Centre

FRIDAY, MARCH 15th 7:30 PM

Master of Ceremonies *John Elson*

Words on the Water Commissioned Poem *Fred Wah*

Writers in Conversation

#1 Fred Wah and Janet Marie Rogers

#2 Madeleine Thien and JJ Lee

Intermission

Music on the mezzanine by Rodrigo

#3 Charlotte Gill, interviewed by host John Elson

#4 Rawi Hage, Anakana Schofield, Matthew Hooton

Friday night sponsored by Scotiabank

SATURDAY, MARCH 16th

MORNING

9:00  Charlotte Gill

9:45  JJ Lee

10:30 **Break**

10:45  Madeleine Thien

11:30  Rawi Hage

12:15 **Lunch**

AFTERNOON

1:00  Anakana Schofield

1:45  Fred Wah

2:30 **Break**

2:45  Matthew Hooton

3:30  Janet Marie Rogers

EVENING

7:30 Literary Cabaret

Featuring

Guest Writers
and Music by the
Dan Montgomery Trio
& Luke Blu Guthrie

Music at the Heart of Thinking 152

When we will be water storm of mouth a rasp against
the numbers in the distance

was a, was a

ihh-zuh ihh-zuh

is and is from shore we'd dance and call for "Sammy the
salmon (to) please come home" salute the hinge of ocean
not the fence of river where there's that disgraceful
synchronicity Mao called swimming for the soul down
anecdotal rivers with the wounded logos floating on the
current like kelp bubbles in the night sky under so much
milk is how we make our story up at night the one about
looking for Tisserande's map you know the one about
the River of Heaven as a piece of cloth woven out of
water running over creek stones this was and it was as
fluid as breathing to never wonder about the real way or
to close the ride out right with light and sigh and awe
and groan and in between we know this is where the
feathers wash up on shore this is where the word rivulet
is embedded in a memory of wash and snow and ditch
this is where we will be liquids where "just in time"
drifts down Smoky Creek and where distance is a door
of water to breathe into finding the way home.

Fred Wah

Guest Authors

Charlotte Gill



Charlotte Gill is the author of **Eating Dirt**, a tree-planting memoir nominated for the Hilary Weston Writers' Trust Prize, the Charles Taylor Prize, and two B.C. Book Prizes. It was the 2012 winner of the B.C. National Award for Canadian Non-Fiction. Her previous book, **w**, was a finalist for the Governor-General's Literary Award and winner of the B.C. Book Prize for fiction. Her work has appeared in *Best Canadian Stories*, *The Journey Prize Stories*, and many magazines. She lives on the Sunshine Coast of British Columbia and is currently the Writer-in-Residence at Campbell River's Haig-Brown House.

Rawi Hage



Rawi Hage was born in Beirut and lived through nine years of the Lebanese civil war. He is a writer and a visual artist. He resides in Montreal. His first novel, **De Niro's Game** won the IMPAC Dublin Literary Award and was translated into several languages. It also won the McAuslan First Book Prize and the Paragraphe Hugh MacLennan Prize for Fiction and was a finalist for the Scotiabank Giller Prize, the Governor-General's Literary Award, the Writers' Trust Award, and the Commonwealth Writers' Prize. **Cockroach**, his second novel, was a finalist for many prestigious awards, including the Scotiabank Giller Prize. His writing appeared in *Walrus*, *Granta*, *Tin House*, *Brick*, *Five Dials*, *TOK*, and *The*

Kenyon Review. His new novel **Carnival** (2012) is about the beautiful, twisted existence of life in the modern city, told from the perspective of a taxi driver.

Matthew Hooton



Matthew Hooton holds degrees in creative writing from the University of Victoria (BA), and Bath Spa University (MA). His first novel, **Deloume Road**, was published in 2010 by Knopf Canada and Jonathan Cape UK. He has also written creative non-fiction for venues such as the CBC, *Geist*, *Reader's Digest* and *Monday Magazine*. After years of working as a freelance editor and writer in South Korea, he now lives and writes on Vancouver Island, where he teaches Creative Writing part-time at the University of Victoria and sits on the fiction editorial board of *The Malahat Review*.



JJ Lee wrote **The Measure of a Man: The Story of a Father, a Son, and a Suit**, published by McClelland & Stewart. The memoir was shortlisted for the 2011 Governor-General's Literary Award for Non-Fiction, the 2012 Charles Taylor Prize for Non-Fiction, and the 2012 Hilary Weston Writers' Trust Prize. Lee is an essayist and fashion writer appearing in *The Vancouver Sun* and *ELLE Canada*. He also presents a style column for CBC Radio in Vancouver.

Janet Marie Rogers



Victoria Poet Laureate 2012 -2015

Janet is a Mohawk/Tuscarora writer from the Six Nations band in southern Ontario. She was born in Vancouver 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, short fiction, spoken word performance poetry, video poetry, and recorded poems with music and script writing.

Janet has three published poetry collections to date: **Splitting the Heart**, **Red Erotic**, and **Unearthed**. Her second poetry CD **Firewater**, gained nominations for best spoken word recording at the both the Canadian Aboriginal Music Awards and the Native American Music Awards. Janet hosts **Native Waves Radio** on CFUV FM and **Tribal Clefs** on CBC FM in Victoria, BC. Her radio documentary **Bring Your Drum** (50 years of indigenous protest music) won Best Radio at the imagineNATIVE Film and Media festival 2011. She was also commissioned to create a radio art piece by the same company that same year.

ikkwenyes or **Dare to Do** is the name of the collective Alex Jacobs and Janet started in 2011. Through the collective, they produced a poetry CD titled **Got Your Back** (nominated for Best Album Cover Design APCMA 2012), a collection of live and studio recordings. **ikkwenyes** invites artists into their collaborations to create projects that promote the Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) culture.

Anakana Schofield



Anakana Schofield writes fiction, essays, and literary criticism. She has also written for several Canadian newspapers, including *The Globe and Mail*, and contributed to CBC Radio. She has a background in theatre and film and has collaborated on a number of performance art pieces throughout Vancouver and Victoria. Her first critically acclaimed novel, **Malarky**, has been described as darkly comic and wildly funny. **Malarky** is the story of an Irish mother forced to look grief in the eye, and of a wife come face-to-face with the mad agony of longing. Comic, moving, eccentric, and spare, Anakana Schofield's debut novel introduces a brilliant new voice in contemporary fiction. She currently resides in Vancouver with her partner and son.

Madeleine Thien



Madeleine Thien is the author of three books of fiction: short story collection, **Simple Recipes**, critically acclaimed novel **Certainty**, and her most recent novel, **Dogs at the Perimeter**. She is a previous finalist for the Kiriyama Prize and the Commonwealth Writers' Prize for Best First Book, and won the 2006 Amazon First Novel Award and the 2010 Ovid Festival Prize. Her stories and essays have appeared in *The Guardian*, *Granta*, *PEN America*, *Five Dials*, *Brick* and the *Asia Literary Review*, and her novels have been translated into eighteen languages. Since 2010, she has been part of the international faculty in the City University of Hong Kong's MFA program. Born in Vancouver, she lives in Montreal.

Fred Wah



Canada's current Parliamentary Poet Laureate.

Fred Wah was born in Swift Current, Saskatchewan, in 1939, and he grew up in the West Kootenay region of British Columbia. He studied music and English literature at the University of British Columbia in the early 1960's, where he was one of the founding editors of the poetry newsletter *TISH*. After graduate work in literature and linguistics at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque and the State University of New York at Buffalo, he returned to the Kootenays in the late 1960's, where he taught at Selkirk College and was the founding coordinator of the writing program at David Thompson University Centre. He retired from the University of Calgary in

2003 and now lives in Vancouver.

He has been editorially involved with a number of literary magazines over the years, such as *Open Letter* and *West Coast Line*. He has published seventeen books of poetry. His book of prose-poems, **Waiting For Saskatchewan**, received the Governor-General's Award in 1986 and **So Far** was awarded the Stephanson Award for Poetry in 1992. **Diamond Grill**, a biofiction about hybridity and growing up in a small-town Chinese-Canadian cafe was published in 1996 and won the Howard O'Hagan Award for Short Fiction. A collection of critical writing, **Faking It: Poetics and Hybridity** (2000) was awarded the Gabrielle Roy Prize for Writing on Canadian literature. Recent books of poetry include **Sentenced to Light**, is a door, and a selection edited by Louis Cabri titled **The False Laws of Narrative**.

Our Master of Ceremonies

John Elson



A retired teacher, John Elson is a part-time bicycle tour guide, timid world explorer and mid-pack weekend warrior with a perpetual pile of books in progress on his bedside table. After more than a decade of hosting *Words on the Water*, John continues to be in awe of writers and their work and is delighted, once again, to spend a weekend in their company.

Our Musicians

Friday evening – music on the mezzanine

Rodrigo

Local favourite, Chilean-born guitar virtuoso RODRIGO FIGUEROA 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, Pat Metheny and he has been recognized by Eric Clapton.

Saturday evening – music on the mezzanine

Dan Montgomery Trio

featuring Jesse McNeill and Matt Aasen

Saturday evening mainstage

Luke Blu Guthrie



Luke Blu Guthrie's music is influenced by his experiences growing up as a rural kid and learning about his roots. A potent blend of independent rural music tinged with electricity provides the backdrop for Luke's lyrical wanderings. His songs are filled with joy and despair, as they tell of life as it can be: full of mystery, toil, confusion and love.

Words On The Water Organizing Committee

Rebecca Berry
Trevor McMonagle

Charlene Brown
JoAnn Milutinovic

Clay Carlson
Angel Murphy

Ruth McMonagle
Paul Murphy

Acknowledgements

Thank you to the volunteers who help make *Words on the Water* function smoothly. You have been steadfast and perennial in your support and your expertise in running the weekend is invaluable and deeply appreciated.

WOW Student Outreach Program

An important commitment of *Words on the Water* is to foster an appreciation of literature in the youth in our community. Thanks to the joint sponsorship of WOW and School District #72, *Janet Marie Rogers* will offer readings in the schools and a writing workshop to Campbell River students on *Friday, March 15th*.

Ann and Roderick Haig-Brown



From its inception, *Words on the Water* has taken inspiration from the lives and works of Ann and Roderick Haig-Brown. The Haig-Browns were philosophers and conservationists who carefully considered their place in the world. Roderick's writing and Ann's humanitarian work continue to influence this community. *Words on the Water* aspires to contribute to keeping their memory alive and to honour their legacy.

Words on the Water Logo design
Lesley Mathews

Notes

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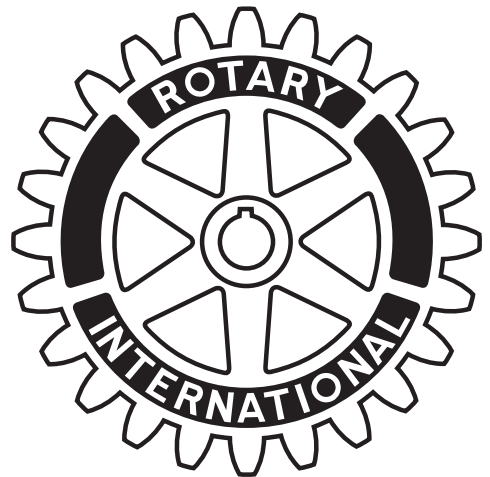
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