

ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTORS



Sari Ginsberg

André Alexis was born in Trinidad in 1957 and grew up in Canada. His debut novel, *Childhood*, won the Chapters/*Books in Canada* First Novel Award, shared the Trillium Book Award, and was shortlisted for the Giller Prize and the Rogers Communications Writers' Trust Fiction Prize. He is also the author of a collection of short stories, *Despair and Other Stories of Ottawa*, which was shortlisted for a regional Commonwealth Writers' Prize; a published play, *Lambton Kent*; a children's book, *Ingrid and the Wolf*; and a forthcoming novel, *Asylum*. André Alexis lives in Toronto.



George Whiteside

Margaret Atwood is the author of more than forty books of fiction, poetry, critical essays, and books for children. Her most recent works are *The Tent*, a collection of mini-fictions, and *Moral Disorder* (fall 2006). Her other books include *Oryx and Crake*, a finalist for the Man Booker Prize and the Giller Prize; the 2000 Booker Prize-winning novel *The Blind Assassin*; *Alias Grace*, winner of the Giller Prize and the Premio Mondello in Italy; *The Robber Bride*; *Cat's Eye*; *The Handmaid's Tale*; and *The Penelopiad*. Margaret Atwood lives in Toronto with novelist Graeme Gibson.

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Emma Dodge Hanson



Russell Banks has received numerous prizes and awards for his work, including the O. Henry and Best American Short Story Awards, the John Dos Passos Prize, and the Literature Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. Russell Banks lives in upstate New York.

Thomas Fricke



David Bergen is the author of the novels *A Year of Lesser*; *See the Child*; *The Case of Lena S.*, winner of the Carol Shields Winnipeg Book Award and a finalist for the Governor General's Award for Fiction; and *The Time in Between*, winner of the Scotiabank Giller Prize. He is also the author of a collection of short fiction, *Sitting Opposite My Brother*, which was a finalist for the Manitoba Book of the Year Award. David Bergen lives in Winnipeg.

Jean Mohr



John Berger is a novelist, storyteller, poet, screenwriter, and art critic. His previous books include the *Into Their Labours* trilogy (*Pig Earth*, *Once in Europa*, and *Lilac and Flag*), *About Looking*, and *Ways of Seeing*. He was awarded the Booker Prize for *G.* and received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Lannan Foundation. Born in England, John Berger has, for many years, lived in a small rural community in France.

Sarah Warren



George Bowering is a poet, novelist, essayist, critic, teacher, historian, and editor, and one of the most prolific writers in Canada. He is a two-time winner of the Governor General's Award, and his most recent collection of poetry, *Changing on the Fly*, was shortlisted for the Griffin Poetry Prize. In November 2002 he was appointed the

first Canadian Parliamentary Poet Laureate. That same month he was made an Officer of the Order of Canada. In 2004 he was awarded the Order of British Columbia.



Michael Elcock

Marilyn Bowering (www.marilynbowering.com) has received a number of awards for poetry, including the Pat Lowther Award, the Dorothy Livesay Prize, and several National Magazine awards, and she has been shortlisted twice for the Governor General's Award. Her fiction has won the Ethel Wilson Prize, been shortlisted for the world-wide Orange Prize, and been recognized with the designation of Notable Book by the *New York Times*. Her new novel is *What It Takes to Be Human* (fall 2006). She now lives with her family in Sooke, British Columbia.



Steph Bealey

Joseph Boyden is a Canadian with Irish, Scottish, and Métis roots. His first novel, *Three Day Road*, won the Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize and the McNally Robinson Aboriginal Book of the Year Award, and was a finalist for the Governor General's Award. Boyden is also the author of *Born with a Tooth*, a collection of stories that was shortlisted for the Upper Canada Writer's Craft Award. Joseph Boyden divides his time between Northern Ontario and Louisiana, where he teaches writing at the University of New Orleans.



Walter Isaac

Di Brandt is the author of five collections of poetry, including *questions i asked my mother*, *Agnes in the sky*, *Jerusalem, beloved*, and *Now You Care*, a finalist for the Trillium Book Award and the Griffin Poetry Prize. Her numerous awards include the Gerald Lampert Award, the McNally Robinson Manitoba Book of the Year Award, a National Magazine Award, and the CAA National Poetry Prize. Brandt recently accepted a Canada Research Chair in Creative Writing at Brandon

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University in Manitoba, and is delighted to be back on the prairies, her beloved home landscape, after teaching at the University of Windsor for eight years.



John Reeves

Barry Callaghan is a novelist, poet, journalist, publisher, and man of letters. The winner of the inaugural W.O. Mitchell Award, Callaghan has received numerous honours for his work and for his contributions to literature. His books include *Hogg: The Poems and Drawings*, *The Black Queen Stories*, *A Kiss Is Still a Kiss*, the memoir *Barrelhouse Kings*, and two volumes of collected non-fiction, *Raise You Five* and *Raise You Ten*. His writing has been published around the world and translated into many languages. Barry Callaghan lives in Toronto.



Karen Engle

Lynn Coady's latest novel is *Mean Boy*. She is also the author of *Strange Heaven* and *Saints of Big Harbour*, and a book of short stories, *Play the Monster Blind*. Lynn Coady lives in Edmonton.



Tim Leyes

Susan Coyne is an actor and writer living in Toronto. As an actor, she has appeared in leading roles in theatres across Canada and is a founding member of Soulpepper Theatre Company. She adapted her memoir, *Kingfisher Days*, for the Tarragon Theatre, where she is a writer-in-residence, and where her latest play, *Alice's Affair*, had its premiere. She has also adapted plays by Chekhov for the stage, and Carol Shields's novel *Unless* for CBC Radio. She has been nominated for a Gemini and won a Writers Guild of Canada award for her work on the TV miniseries *Slings and Arrows*.



Holly Hogan

Michael Crummey is a full-time writer living in St. John's. His bestselling first novel, *River Thieves*, was a finalist for the Giller Prize, the Commonwealth Writers' Prize, the Amazon/*Books in Canada* First Novel Award, and won the Thomas Raddall Atlantic Fiction Award and the Winterset Award. He has written three books of poetry, a collection of short stories, and, with photographer Greg Locke, published *Newfoundland: Journey into a Lost Nation*. His latest novel, *The Wreckage*, was a finalist for the Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize.



Sam Green

Margaret Drabble has published sixteen novels and various works of non-fiction, including biographies of English novelists Arnold Bennett and Angus Wilson. She is also the editor of the *Oxford Companion to English Literature*. Drabble is a patron of the Cambodia Trust and the Guantanamo Human Rights Commission. She was awarded the CBE in 1980, and became a Foreign Honorary Member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters in 2002. Margaret Drabble lives in London and West Somerset.



Michael Mitchell

Bernice Eisenstein is a writer and artist whose drawings and illustrations have appeared in a variety of Canadian magazines and periodicals. She has also worked as a freelance literary editor. Her recently published illustrated memoir, *I Was a Child of Holocaust Survivors*, is scheduled for publication in the U.S., the U.K., and in translation throughout the world. She lives in Toronto, with her husband and two children.

Howard Engel is the creator of the enduring detective Benny Cooperman, who has become an internationally recognized fictional sleuth. Two of Engel's novels have been adapted for TV movies, and his books have been

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Steve Payne



translated into several languages. In 2001, Howard Engel experienced a stroke that resulted in *alexia sine agraphia*. Soon after, despite his inability to read, he wrote *Memory Book*. In March 2005, he received the Matt Cohen Prize for Lifetime Achievement. He lives in Toronto.

Deborah Quenert



Damon Galgut was born in 1963 in Pretoria, South Africa. He is the author of five books, the latest of which, *The Good Doctor*, won a regional Commonwealth Writers' Prize for Best Book and was a finalist for the Man Booker Prize and the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award. He lives in Cape Town.

Mindy Stricke



Jonathan Garfinkel is the author of a book of poetry, *Glass Psalms*, and the plays *Walking to Russia* and *The Trials of John Demjanjuk: A Holocaust Cabaret*. His most recent play, *Blind*, about a divided house in Jerusalem, was presented in June 2005 at the National Arts Centre in Ottawa. An article about his travels in Palestine and Israel is forthcoming in the *Walrus*. He is a recent graduate of the University of Toronto's MA program in Creative Writing. Jonathan Garfinkel lives in Toronto.

Glen Gatenby



Greg Gatenby is the author of several books of poetry and non-fiction, most recently, *Toronto: A Literary Guide*. He was, until recently, the Artistic Director of the world-renowned International Festival of Authors and of the weekly Harbour-front Reading Series in Toronto. Under his directorship, the program featured readings and talks

by more than four thousand authors from more than ninety nations. Gatenby was one of the five founding members of the reconstituted PEN Canadian Centre, and one of the four principal organizers of the PEN World Congress in Toronto in 1989. He is currently writing a history of the First World War.

Mathieu Bourgois



Camilla Gibb is the author of three novels, *Mouth-ing the Words*, winner of the City of Toronto Book Award, *The Petty Details of So-and-so's Life*, and *Sweetness in the Belly*, a finalist for the Giller Prize.

Patrick Williams



Charlotte Gray is the author of five bestselling, award-winning books of biography and popular history, including *Sisters in the Wilderness: The Lives of Susanna Moodie and Catharine Parr Traill*, *Canada: A Portrait in Letters 1800–2000*, and *A Museum Called Canada*. In 2003, Gray received the Pierre Berton Medal for distinguished achievement in popularizing Canadian history, and her biography of Pauline Johnson, *Flint & Feather*, won the University of British Columbia medal for biography. Her latest book is *Reluctant Genius: The Passionate Life and Inventive Mind of Alexander Graham Bell* (fall 2006).

Mark Fried



Elizabeth Hay's books include the award-winning novels *Garbo Laughs* and *A Student of Weather*, and the story collection *Small Change*. Born in Owen Sound, Ontario, she worked as a radio broadcaster before becoming a full-time writer. She lives in Ottawa, where she's at work on a new novel about the North.

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Susan Carr



Michael Helm's most recent novel, *In the Place of Last Things*, was a finalist for the regional Commonwealth Writers' Prize for Best Book and the Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize. His first novel, *The Projectionist*, was a finalist for the Giller Prize and the Trillium Book Award. His essays on fiction, poetry, photography, and painting have appeared in various North American magazines, including *Brick*, where he has served as an editor since 2003.

Lee Townsend



Sheila Heti is the author of the story collection *The Middle Stories*, the novel *Ticknor*, and the musical *All Our Happy Days Are Stupid*. She is the creator of Trampoline Hall, a popular lecture series out of New York and Toronto, at which people speak on subjects outside their areas of expertise. She studied art history and philosophy at the University of Toronto, and playwriting at the National Theatre School of Canada.

Rick Loughran



Annabel Lyon is the author of the fiction collections *Oxygen* and *The Best Thing for You*. Her short fiction has been published in *Toronto Life*, *The Journey Prize Anthology*, and *Write Turns: New Directions in Canadian Fiction*. In addition to creative writing, Annabel Lyon has studied music, philosophy, and law. She lives in Vancouver.

Nigel Dickson



David Macfarlane is the author of *The Danger Tree*, winner of the Canadian Authors Association Award for non-fiction, and *Summer Gone*, a finalist for the Giller Prize. His play, *Fishwrap*, was performed at Toronto's Tarragon Theatre in 2005. Macfarlane has been the recipient of several National Magazine Awards and a National Newspaper Award. He is currently completing books on the marble quarries of Carrara and on Toronto.



Ted Rhoades

Alistair MacLeod is the author of the short-story collections *The Lost Salt Gift of Blood*, *As Birds Bring Forth the Sun*, and *Island: The Collected Short Stories*. His celebrated first novel, *No Great Mischief*, won numerous awards, including the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award, the Thomas Raddall Atlantic Fiction Award, and the Trillium Book Award. Alistair MacLeod and his wife, Anita, live in Windsor.

Greer Gattuso/
Palm Beach Daily News

Margaret MacMillan is the Provost of Trinity College and a professor of history. Her bestselling book *Paris 1919: Six Months That Changed the World* won the Samuel Johnson prize for non-fiction among others in the U.K. and the U.S.; and in Canada the 2003 Governor General's Award for Non-Fiction.



E.C.

Alberto Manguel is internationally acclaimed as an anthologist, translator, essayist, novelist, and editor. He is the author of several award-winning books, including *A Dictionary of Imaginary Places*, *A History of Reading*, winner of France's Prix Medicis, and *Reading Pictures*, a finalist for the Governor General's Award for Non-Fiction. His most recent book is *Stevenson Under the Palm Trees*. Manguel was born in Buenos Aires, became a Canadian citizen in 1982, and now lives in France, where he was named an Officer of the Order of Arts and Letters.



Danielle Schaub

Yann Martel is the author of a collection of short stories and two novels. His last novel, *Life of Pi*, won the 2002 Man Booker Prize and was published in more than forty countries. He is torn between living in Saskatoon, where he was writer-in-residence at the Public Library in 2003–4, and Montreal.

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David Laurence

Anne Michaels's first novel, *Fugitive Pieces*, garnered high acclaim and numerous awards internationally, including the Orange Prize for Fiction, the Trillium Book Award, the Chapters/*Books in Canada* First Novel Award, the *Guardian* Fiction Award, the Giuseppe Acerbi Prize in Italy, and a Lannan Literary Award for Fiction. She is also the author of three poetry collections, *The Weight of Oranges*, *Miner's Pond*, and *Skin Divers*. Anne Michaels lives in Toronto.



F. Mistry

Rohinton Mistry is the author of three novels, *Such a Long Journey*, *A Fine Balance*, and *Family Matters*, and a collection of short stories, *Tales from Firozsha Baag*. His fiction has won many prestigious awards internationally. Born in Bombay, Rohinton Mistry has lived in Canada since 1975.



Barbara Stoneham

Lisa Moore has written two short-story collections, *Degrees of Nakedness* and *Open*, a finalist for the Giller Prize. Her first novel, *Alligator*, was a finalist for the Scotiabank Giller Prize and winner of a regional Commonwealth Writers' Prize for Best Book. She lives in St. John's, Newfoundland. Her daughter, Eva Crocker, won the Newfoundland and Labrador Arts and Letters short fiction prize for 2003 and 2004.



Aline Brault

Shani Mootoo was born in Ireland and grew up in Trinidad. She has lived in Canada since the early 1980s. She is the author of a book of poetry, *The Predicament of Or*, a collection of short fiction, *Out On Main Street*, and two novels, *Cereus Blooms at Night*, a finalist for the Giller Prize, the Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize, and the Chapters/*Books in Canada* First Novel Award, and, most recently, *He Drown She in the Sea*. Shani Mootoo lives in Edmonton.



Derek Shapton

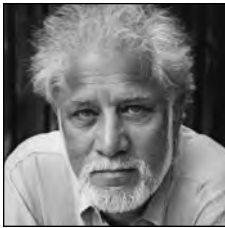
Alice Munro is the author of thirteen books of short fiction, most recently *Runaway* and *The View from Castle Rock* (fall 2006). During her distinguished career, she has been the recipient of numerous prizes, including the W.H. Smith Prize, the National Book Critics Circle Award, the PEN/Malamud Award, the Rea Award for the

Short Story, the Governor General's Award, and the Giller Prize. Her stories have appeared in the *New Yorker*, the *Atlantic Monthly*, and the *Paris Review*. She and her husband divide their time between Clinton, Ontario, and Comox, British Columbia.



Charlotte Musgrave

Susan Musgrave has been labelled an eco-feminist and an anti-feminist, a stand-up comedian and poet of death and darkness, a femme fatale and enfant terrible, sea-witch and sea-hag, and "the bank robber's wife." On her days off she writes books, the latest being *You're in Canada Now . . . A Memoir of Sorts*.



Jeff Nolte

Michael Ondaatje is the author of the novels *In the Skin of a Lion*, *The English Patient*, and *Anil's Ghost*. His other books include *Running in the Family*, *Coming Through Slaughter*, *The Cinnamon Peeler*, and *Handwriting*. His most recent book is *The Conversations: Walter Murch and the Art of Editing Film*. Ondaatje was born in Sri

Lanka and came to Canada in 1962. He lives in Toronto.

Thies Bogner –
Bogner Photography

Anna Porter has been an editor and publisher for thirty years. She is happy to have had a chance to work with extraordinary writers, including Farley Mowat. She is the author of four books, most recently *The Storyteller: Memory, Secrets, Magic and Lies*.

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Arthur Renwick

Eden Robinson finishes a book every five years or so. She's written two novels, *Monkey Beach* and *Blood Sports*, and a collection of short stories, *Traplines*. She lives in Kitamaat, a reserve on the northwest coast of British Columbia.



Nancy Crampton

Marilynne Robinson is the author of the novels *Housekeeping*, winner of the PEN/Hemingway Award, and *Gilead*, winner of the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Critics Circle Award, and two books of non-fiction, *Mother Country* and *The Death of Adam*. She teaches at the University of Iowa Writers' Workshop.



Biserka Livaja

Peter Robinson is one of the world's top writers of crime fiction and the author of the internationally acclaimed Inspector Banks novels. The series has won numerous awards, including the Edgar Award (U.S.), the Dagger in the Library Award (U.K.), the Grand Prix de Littérature Policière (France), the Palle Rosenkrantz Award (Denmark), and several Arthur Ellis Awards (Canada). Robinson was born in Yorkshire, England, and immigrated to Canada in the early 1970s. He lives in Toronto.



Hilary Sherker

Constance Rooke is the President of PEN Canada and the editor of two previous PEN Canada anthologies, *Writing Away* and *Writing Home*. An academic who has served as Chair of the Department of English and Associate Vice-President Academic at the University of Guelph, and as President of the University of Winnipeg, she is presently Director of the University of Guelph's new Master of Fine

Arts Program in Creative Writing at the University of Guelph-Humber. She is the author of several books, including *Fear of the Open Heart: Essays on Contemporary Canadian Writing*, and for ten years was Editor of the *Malahat Review*. She lives in Toronto.



Sophie Boussols

John Ralston Saul's latest book is *The Collapse of Globalism and the Reinvention of the World*. His philosophical trilogy and its conclusion – *Voltaire's Bastards: The Dictatorship of Reason in the West*, *The Doubter's Companion: A Dictionary of Aggressive Common Sense*, *The Unconscious Civilization* and *On Equilibrium: Six Qualities of the New Humanism* – has impacted political thought in many countries. Former President and now Honorary Patron of PEN Canada, Saul is a Companion in the Order of Canada and a Chevalier in the Ordre des Arts et des Lettres of France. In 2004, he received the Pablo Neruda International Presidential Medal of Honor.



Sari Ginsberg

Shyam Selvadurai was born in Sri Lanka, and came to Canada with his family at the age of nineteen. He is the author of two novels, *Funny Boy*, winner of the W.H. Smith/*Books in Canada* First Novel Award and the Lambda Literary Award in the U.S., and *Cinnamon Gardens*, a finalist for the Trillium Book Award; a young adult novel, *Swimming in the Monsoon Sea*, a finalist for the Governor General's Award; and the editor of *Story-Wallah: A Celebration of South Asian Fiction*. He lives in Toronto.



Shawn Benjamin

Russell Smith grew up in Halifax and now lives in Toronto. His most recent novel, *Muriella Pent*, was a finalist for the Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize and the Toronto Book Award. He writes a weekly column on media in the *Globe and Mail*.

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Juan Opitz



Rosemary Sullivan is an award-winning Toronto writer and author of ten books. *By Heart: Elizabeth Smart/A Life* was nominated for the Governor General's Award for Non-Fiction in 1991; *Shadow-Maker: The Life of Gwendolyn MacEwen* won the Governor General's Award for Non-Fiction in 1995. Her latest books have been

Labyrinth of Desire: Women, Passion, and Romantic Desire, and *Cuba: Grace Under Pressure*.

Beth Perkins



Susan Swan is a Toronto novelist and Humanities professor at York University. She is also the vice chair of the Writers' Union of Canada. Her novel *What Casanova Told Me* was published in Canada and in the U.S., and will be published in Spain, France, Serbia, and Russia.

Willem J. Atsma



Madeleine Thien's first book of fiction, *Simple Recipes*, won four awards in Canada, was a finalist for a regional Commonwealth Writers' Prize for Best First Book, and was named a notable book by the Kiriyama Pacific Rim Book Prize. Her debut novel, *Certainty*, is scheduled for publication in the U.S. and the U.K., and in countries

around the world. Originally from Vancouver, Madeleine Thien currently lives in Quebec City with her husband, Willem.

Elsa Trillat



Jane Urquhart is the author of six novels, *The Whirlpool*, *Changing Heaven*, *Away*, *The Underpainter*, *The Stone Carvers*, and *A Map of Glass*. Her fiction has won numerous awards, including Le prix du meilleur livre étranger (Best Foreign Book Award) in France, the Trillium Book Award, and the Governor General's Award. She is also the

author of a collection of short fiction, *Storm Glass*, and four books of poetry. Jane Urquhart lives in southwestern Ontario.

Christine Pountney



Michael Winter is the author of the novels *The Big Why* and *This All Happened*, and the short-story collections *Creaking in Their Skins* and *One Last Good Look*. He has won no major prizes. He lives in Toronto.

Terence Young



Patricia Young's eight books of poetry have won numerous awards, including the Pat Lowther Award, the B.C. Book Prize, the Dorothy Livesay Prize, the League of Canadian Poets National Poetry Competition, the CBC Literary Competition, and a National Magazine Award. Her most recent collection, *Ruin and Beauty: New and Selected Poems*, was a finalist for the Governor General's Award. The manuscript for her first collection of short fiction, *Airstream*, won the Metcalf-Rooke Award.