

## January 28, 2010

**Douglas Burnet Smith** is the author of fifteen books of poetry. Nominated for the Governor General's Award, Canada's most prestigious literary honour, he has won many prizes for his writing, including The Malahat Review Long Poem Prize. He has represented Canada at international writers' festivals including: the Belgrade International Writers' Meeting, the Sarajevo International Poetry Festival, Le Scriptorium: Marseille, and Le Marché de la Poésie, Paris, the Marlborough Festival, England, the DH Lawrence Festival, Sante Fe. The National Gallery of Canada's audiotope guide to its permanent collection contains his work. He has served as the President of the League of Canadian Poets and as Chair of the Public Lending Right Commission of Canada. He teaches at St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, Nova Scotia and at the American University of Paris.

### **Kim Goldberg** *Rumblings from the RED ZONE*

where poetry meets modern dance...

with Kim Goldberg, Holly Bright, Allannah Dow

Don't miss the world premiere of this modern dance adaptation of Kim Goldberg's latest book *RED ZONE* -- poems of homelessness and urban decay. Kim spent three years verse-mapping downtown Nanaimo's back alleys, graffiti galleries, underpasses and homeless camps to create *RED ZONE*. Holly Bright and Allannah Dow join her onstage for a risk-filled fusion of spoken word, dance and cello. Take the journey with them -- if you dare.

BIOS:

**Kim Goldberg** is an award-winning poet, journalist and author. Her work has been widely published in magazines and anthologies around the world including *Maclean's*, *Canadian Geographic*, *Cimarron Review*, *Geist*, *Tesseract*, *The Capilano Review* and elsewhere. She is the 2008 winner of the Rannu Fund Poetry Prize for Speculative Literature. Her first poetry collection, *Ride Backwards on Dragon*, was shortlisted for Canada's Lampert Memorial Award. [Pig Squash Press](#)

**Holly Bright** is a performer and dance educator who specializes in solo dance interpretation of works by established Canadian choreographers. She has taught and performed across Canada and the U.S. Holly choreographs for dancers and professional musical theatre. She is founder/director of The Crimson Coast Dance Society (Nanaimo), an organization that supports the creation and presentation of professional dance events in Nanaimo, B.C.

**Allannah Dow** spent more than 30 years playing cello in a classical and orchestral environment until a spiritual quest, coupled to a desire to sing her own song, led her into a new relationship with her century-old cello, Sebastian.

## February 25, 2010

**Paul Nelson** is Father/Poet/Teacher, co-founder of SPLAB, author: *Organic Poetry* (Oct. 08, VDM Verlag, Germany) & *A Time Before Slaughter* (Oct. 09, Apprentice House,) a serial poem re-enacting the history of Auburn, WA (originally called Slaughter. Worked 26 years in radio, interviewed Allen Ginsberg, Michael McClure, Anne Waldman, Sam Hamill, Robin Blaser, Wanda Coleman, Eileen Myles, Jerome

Rothenberg, George Bowering & others. He earned his M.A. from Lesley University in Organic Poetry, a study of North American poets writing (to different degrees) spontaneously, writes one American Sentence every day & lives in Seattle.

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**M.C. Warrior** was born in England and educated Harrow School and U.B.C. Worked as a coast logger for eight years (rigging slinger, chaser, landing bucket) and a commercial fisherman (seine crew) for 23. Also worked as Fishermen's Union Organizer and now works as the Lead Strategic Researcher for the Labourers' Union's organising drives in Western Canada. He has read at City Lights Books for San Francisco's Labor Fest and been published in various magazines and anthologies, both here and abroad— most recently in *Rocksalt*.

## March 23, 2010

**Leanne Boschman** is a prairie transplant to the West Coast. Her poems have been published in *Other Voices*, *Dandelion Magazine*, *Geist Magazine*, *Prism International*, *Room of One's Own*, and *Rhubarb*. They have also been included in *Creekstones: Anthology of Northern BC Poets*, *Half in the Sun: Anthology of Mennonite Writing*, and *Rocksalt: An Anthology of Contemporary BC Poetry*. Leanne's first collection of poems entitled *Precipitous Signs: A Rain Journal* was published in April 2009 by Leaf Press.

**Richard Lemm:** Award-winning author Richard Lemm was born in Seattle, Washington, and immigrated to Canada in 1967. He has an MA in English from Queen's University and a PhD from Dalhousie University. He has been a faculty member at the Banff School of Fine Arts, and has been writer in residence and poetry instructor for various community colleges, regional libraries, public school districts, and summer writing programs across the country.

An award-winning poet and past-president of the League of Canadian Poets, he is the author of four books of poetry; his most recent collection is *Four Ways of Dealing with Bullies*. He is the author of *Milton Acorn: In Love and Anger*, a biography of the "People's Poet" of Canada. In 2007, *Shape of Things to Come*, a collection of stories was published by Acorn Press.

Richard lives in Charlottetown where he is professor of Canadian and English Literature and Creative Writing at the University of Prince Edward Island.

**Pam Galloway:** Born in northern England, Pam Galloway now lives in Vancouver. Her poetry is published widely in literary magazines and anthologies and on the website of the Canadian Parliamentary Poet Laureate ([www.parl.gov.ca](http://www.parl.gov.ca)). In 2008/2009 one of Pam's poems travelled on the skytrain and buses as part of "Poetry In Transit".

She worked collaboratively with Quintet, a group of poets in Vancouver to produce their poetry collection, *Quintet: Themes and Variations*, (Ekstasis Editions 1998). Her

first book of poetry *Parallel Lines* was published in 2006, (Ekstasis Editions). Recently, her poetry was included in the photographic/poetry collection *A Verse Map of Vancouver*. She has an MFA in creative writing from UBC.

**Winona Baker** is a poet, wife, and mother of four children. She has won international awards for haiku and tanka; her poems have been translated into French, Croatian, German, Greek, Japanese, Romanian, and Yugoslavian and are published in over 80 anthologies in North America, Europe, New Zealand, and Japan. She has published five poetry books: *Clouds Empty Themselves, Not So Scarlet a Woman* (Red Cedar Press, 1987), *Beyond the Lighthouse* (Oolichan, 1992), *Moss-Hung Trees* (Reflections, 1992), and *Even a Stone Breathes* (Oolichan, 2000).

**Kirsty Elliot** lives on a little island homestead and is delighted to be leaving the dirty diapers behind to join you for a night of poetry.

## May 31, 2010

**Frank Moher's** plays have been seen internationally, at theatres including South Coast Rep (Costa Mesa, Calif.), the Canadian Stage Company (Toronto), Workshop West Theatre (Edmonton), the Asolo Theater (Sarasota, Fla.), Alberta Theatre Projects (Calgary), The Bunkaza Theatre (Tokyo), and Dodona Theatre (Prishtina, Kosovo). They include *Pause*, *The Broken Globe*, *Down for the Weekend*, *Odd Jobs*, *Sliding for Home* (with Gerald Reid), *The Third Ascent*, *Prairie Report*, *Kidnapping the Bride*, *Farewell*, *McLuhan: The Musical* (with Gerald Reid), *Supreme Dream* (with Rhonda Trodd), *All I Ever Wanted*, *Tolstoy's Wife*, *Weather*, and *Big Baby*. He is currently at work on *Moonbound!*, a musical adaptation of H.G. Wells' *First Men in the Moon*. His plays are published online by ProPlay and by the Playwrights Guild of Canada.

Also a journalist, Frank edits the online magazine <http://backofthebook.ca>. He has taught at the University of British Columbia and the University of Alberta (where he was a Distinguished Visiting Artist), and is currently Chair of the Department of Creative Writing and Journalism at Vancouver Island University. He lives on Gabriola Island.

**Wendy Morton** has 5 books of poetry in the world, and a memoir. Her latest book, *What Were Their Dreams* is a book of photo-poems, about Canada's history; the poems are on archival photos. Some of the poems are stories of First Nations residents of the Alberni Valley that have been turned into poems. She is the recent recipient of The Spirit Bear Award, instituted by Patrick Lane and Lorna Crozier and The Golden Beret Award from the Calgary Spoken Word Society both honouring her enduring contributions to the poetic community in Canada. She lives in west of Sooke, in the same old house for 37 years. She is a raven watcher.

**Rhonda Ganz** is delighted to have a poem in *Rocksalt: An Anthology of Contemporary BC Poetry*. A stanza from that poem showed up on Vancouver buses as part of the 2010 Poetry in Transit project. At the end of 2009, the *Times Colonist* newspaper commissioned her as one of five poets to write a poem to celebrate solstice. Previously published in *Ascent Aspirations* and several

chapbooks edited by Patrick Lane, Rhonda is pleased to be a featured reader at Wordstorm, where she has often been an appreciative member of the audience. When not writing poetry, Rhonda works as a graphic designer and editor and dotes on her husband and three cats. She reads entirely too much crime fiction, if such a thing is even possible.

## September 27, 2010

**Naomi Beth Wakan** has written/compiled over thirty-five books, including *Haiku – one breath poetry*, (Heian International), an American Library Association selection. Recent titles are *Segues*, *Late Bloomer – on writing later in life*, *Compositions: notes on the written word*, and *Book Ends: a year between the covers*, all from Wolsak and Wynn, *Double take – response tanka* from The Modern English Tanka Press, and *Sex After 70 and other poems* from Bevalia Press. Her writing workshops inspire and empower the novice writer. Naomi is a member of Haiku Canada, Tanka Canada, The League of Canadian Poets, and Poetry Gabriola. Her poetry and essays have been printed in numerous magazines including *Geist*, *Room of One's Own*, *Moonset* and *Red Light* and been read on CBC. She lives on Gabriola Island with her husband, the sculptor, Elias Wakan.

**Clea Roberts** lives in Whitehorse, Yukon on the Takhini River. Her poems have appeared in *The Antigone Review*, *CV2*, *The Dalhousie Review*, *The International Feminist Journal of Politics*, *Lake: A Journal of Arts and the Environment*, *The Malahat Review*, *Prism International*, and *Room*. Roberts has received fellowships from the Vermont Studio Centre, the Atlantic Centre for the Arts, and is a three-time recipient of the Yukon Government Advanced Artist Award. Her work has been nominated for a National Magazine Award and her poem, "When We Begin to Grow Old," won the After Al Purdy Poetry Contest. Clea is the former co-organizer of the Whitehorse Poetry Festival.

**Susan McCaslin** is a poet, educator, scholar, workshop facilitator, and author of fourteen volumes of poetry, including her most recent, *Lifting the Stone* (Seraphim Editions, 2007). She has edited two anthologies of poetry *Poetry and Spiritual Practice* and *A Matter of Spirit* and is on the editorial board of *Event: the Douglas College Review*. Susan lives in Fort Langley, British Columbia. After twenty-three years as a professor of English and Creative Writing at Douglas College in New Westminster, B.C., Susan is now a full-time writer, giving poetry workshops, talks, and readings. She has a new volume of poetry called *Demeter Goes Skydiving* forthcoming from the University of Alberta Press in the spring of 2011.  
Web Site

**Elizabeth Rhett Woods'** professional writing debut was "A Way of Loving", broadcast on CBC Radio's *Introducing* in 1968. Her 90-minute verse drama, *Maya* was featured on CBC Radio's *Tuesday Night*, in 1974), and a verse vignette, "Life and Death Along The Gorge", was on *Out Front*, in 2000.

Her first novel, *The Yellow Volkswagen*, was published by Simon & Schuster, Canada, in 1971, followed by *The Amateur* (PaperJacks, 1980), *Double Entry Death* (serialized in the short-lived tabloid, *The Victoria Literary Times*, 2004), and *Beyond the Pale*, about temptation and consequences (Ekstasis Editions, 2006).

After a chapbook, *Gone*, was published by Ladysmith Press in 1971, her first book-length collection, *Men*, was published by Fiddlehead Poetry Books, in 1979, followed by *Bird Salad* (Moonstone Press, 1990), *Family Fictions* (Wolsak & Wynn, 2002), *The Absinthe of Desire* (Ekstasis Editions, 2004), and *1970: A Novel Poem* (Ekstasis Editions, 2007). *Woman Walking: Selected Poems*, was published by Ekstasis Editions in 2009.  
Web Site

## October 25, 2010

**D.C. Reid** walked out onto the Alberta prairie west of Calgary when he was three years old (1955) and never came back. When he was five he reached his hand into a stream and pulled out a trout. His life has been about water since that day. He was published in *MacLeans* when he was ten and thought the writing life would be easy. What an innocent.

Since that time he has been published in more than 50 literary magazines in Canada, the United States, the U.K., India and Mexico, with his work having been translated into Spanish and Hindi. On the literary side of his writing life, he has published four books of poetry and one novel.

Along the way, and much to his surprise, he took a B.Sc. in biochemistry and zoology, then started over again, instead of going on to a PHD in cancer research; going to England and taking a B.A. in English and Philosophy – both honours degrees. Arriving back in Canada in 1976 unable to find a job, Dennis was told by Eli Mandel at the then Banff School of Fine Arts he could write poetry, something he would never have guessed, nor ever do on his own.

Reid went on to do an M.P.A. to get a job to feed his new family. After going crazy with that and then spending the best decade of his life bringing his daughters up at home, he lost them through divorce, a sadness that continues.

In 1996, Patrick Lane told him at the now Banff Centre that his instincts were good and so was his work. He then jumped off the cliff and has lived in the fire of poetry since then. Now, he calls it: a necessary love. His fifth and sixth books of poetry will come soon: *What It Means To Be Human*, and *You Shall Have No Other*. On another side of his life, Reid has gone on to write for more than 50 magazines/newspapers/websites across North America on fishing – gear, fly and Spey – in salt- and fresh-water. His fourth fishing book will be released in 2008. When not at his computer, he will just as frequently be found in his Vancouver Island wilderness with the fish he likes to check on from time to time just to make sure they are okay. Once secure in that knowledge, he lets them go, sometimes seeing in his rounds as many as 500 in a year. His largest spring is 60 pounds – on his 8 weight. Reid has a canyon river he strays into more than he should, in his mid-fifties, for wild summer steelhead on the fly, climbing down cliffs with his fly rod between his teeth. And this has segued into another side of his writing life: he is delving into the hardcore science to write a book he has wanted for more than a decade: *The Brains of Poets*. Still out there in his future is the fourth room of his mind. He will learn to play the piano and write an album of music. He is too embarrassed to sing in front of

others, at the moment, but there is time to get over that. Having played clarinet and sax in jazz, Dixie and symphony, he can get his right hand to work on the black and white keys, but not his left. There is time for that, too.

**Barbara Pelman** was born in Vancouver BC and received her BA from the University of British Columbia and her MA from the University of Toronto. She worked in England for a few years as a Canadian Immigration officer before returning to BC. She has recently retired from a career of teaching English, mainly at the high school level, but also at colleges and universities. Now she writes, offers poetry workshops to teachers and students, and participates in the busy Victoria writing community. Her poems have been published in *Event*, *CV2*, *Quills*, *Descant*, *Antigonish Review*, *Dalhousie Review*, and in the Leaf Press "Glenairley" series. They have also appeared on the Leaf Press website as the "Monday Poem". Her second book of poetry, *Borrowed Rooms* was published by Ronsdale Press (2008).

## November 29, 2010

**Kim Clark** lives on Vancouver Island. Disease and desire, mothering and the mundane propel her ongoing journey between poetry and prose. Kim's work can be found in *Body Breakdowns* (Anvil Press), *The Malahat Review*, *All Rights Reserved*, *Ascent Aspirations*, as well as e-zines and other publications in Canada and the U.S.

Kim has just completed a short story collection and two full length poetry manuscripts. She has been a 2010 winner in both the SCRATCH poetry and fiction contests and been short-listed in the Malahat Review's Novella Contest.

**Daniela Elza** is a free-range poet, and a non-medicated scholar of the poetic consciousness. She has released more than a 140 poems into the world in over 42 publications. Her interests lie in the gaps, rubs, and bridges between poetry, language, and philosophy. She just finished compiling her second full-length manuscript, while also working on her doctorate thesis in Philosophy of Education at SFU. Daniela is the recipient of this year's Pandora's Collective Citizenship Award.