

Biographies

Katherine Bell is a PhD candidate in Language, Culture and Teaching at York University, Toronto. She holds BA and BEd degrees from the University of New Brunswick and an MA in English from the University of Toronto. Her research interests include: representations of childhood in European and Canadian coming-of-age literature, psychoanalytic theories of female development, and body/landscape relations in Canadian art and literature.

Margo Berdeshevsky's poetry collection, *But a Passage in Wilderness*, was published by Sheep Meadow Press (2008.) Her honors include the Robert H. Winner Award from the Poetry Society of America, The Chelsea Poetry Award, Kalliope's Sue Sanie Elkind, places in the Pablo Neruda and Ann Stanford Awards, 5 Pushcart Prize nominations for works in literary journals including: *Agni*, *New Letters*, *Pleiades*, *The Southern Review*, *The Kenyon Review*, *Poetry Daily*, *Poetry International*, *Pool*, *Nimrod*, *Runes*, *Margie*, and *Women's Studies Quarterly*. She received the Ronald Sukenick/American Book Review award for innovative fiction, for *Beautiful Soon Enough*, a collection of illustrated short tales, forthcoming in 2009 from Fiction Collective 2. Her novel, *Vagrant*, is also forthcoming, from Red Hen Press. Her Tsunami Notebook was made following a journey to Sumatra in Spring 2005, to work in a survivors' clinic in Aceh. She currently lives in Paris.

Di Brandt has published numerous books of poetry, creative essays, and fiction, and has collaborated extensively with artists in other media. Her many awards include the Foreword Gold Medal for General Fiction (with Annie Jacobsen and Jane Finlay-Young), the CAA National Poetry Prize, the McNally Robinson Manitoba Book of the Year Award and a Silver National Magazine Award. Her website address is www.dibrandt.ca.

Richard Brock is a PhD student in English at the University of Calgary, specializing in postcolonial and Canadian literatures. He has published work on a number of postcolonial writers, and currently works as editorial assistant on the journal *ARIEL: A Review of International English Literature*. The essay included in this issue is adapted from his in-progress PhD dissertation, tentatively titled "Reading Postcolonial Canada: An Ekphrastic Methodology."

Rishma Dunlop is an award winning Canadian poet, playwright, essayist, and fiction writer. She is the author of numerous books of poetry including: *White Album*, *Metropolis*, *Reading Like a Girl*, and *The Body of My Garden*. Books as editor include: *White Ink: Poems on Mothers and Motherhood* and *Red Silk: An Anthology of South Asian Canadian Women Poets*. Her radio drama, "The Raj Kumari's Lullaby," was commissioned by CBC radio and published in *Where is Here: The Drama of Immigration*, in 2005. She received the Emily

Dickinson Prize for Poetry in 2003 and has been a finalist for the CBC Literary Prize in Poetry. She is a professor at York University, Toronto. Dunlop is editor of the international poetry journal *Studio*.

Lynn Fels is a writer, performing arts educator, and assistant professor at Simon Fraser University. Her research interests include the interplay between performance and technology, arts education across the curriculum, empowerment and learning through the arts, professional and community development, and curriculum planning and implementation. Lynn recently co-authored *Exploring Curriculum: Performative Inquiry, Role Drama, and Learning*, with George Belliveau. (Pacific Education Press, 2008). She is currently the Academic Editor of an on-line education journal, *Educational Insights*.

Ann Fisher-Wirth's third book of poems, *Carta Marina*, will be published by Wings Press in 2009. She is the author of *Blue Window* and *Five Terraces* and of two chapbooks—*The Trinket Poems* and *Walking Wu Wei's Scroll*. With Laura-Gray Street she is coediting *Earth's Body*, an international anthology of ecopoetry in English. In 2006 she was President of ASLE (Association for the Study of Literature and Environment). Her poetry has appeared widely and received numerous awards. She has had Fulbright fellowships to Switzerland and Sweden, and she teaches at the University of Mississippi. A video of her poetry is at poetryvlog.com. Her poems "Sweetgum Country" and "Where, Beneath the Magnolia" have been previously published in her book *Blue Window* (Archer Books, 2003).

Amy Friend was born in Windsor, Ontario, Canada. She moved to Toronto and studied at the Ontario College of Art and Design before embarking on intermittent travels through areas of Europe, Morocco, Cuba, and the US. Friend holds a BFA Honors Degree and a BEd from York University as well as an MFA Degree from the University of Windsor. Her work has been exhibited at several contemporary galleries including, Gallery 1313 (Toronto), Propeller Gallery (Toronto), Artcite (Windsor), and the Art Gallery of Windsor. In 2008 she was selected for the Magenta Flash Forward Emerging Photography Competition. This winter Amy Friend will exhibit a series of photographs in Camaguey, Cuba. She is currently teaching photography at Brock University. More of her work can be found at www.amyfriend.ca.

Vivian Hansen's poetry and nonfiction has appeared in several Canadian journals. Her poetry collection *Leylines of My Flesh* (Touchwood 2002) writes the voices of Danish immigrants to western Canada. She lives and works in Calgary, where Nose Hill Park is a featured urban prairie landscape in her work. She is currently working on her MFA in Creative Writing at the University of British Columbia. Please see website at: www.vivianhansen.ca

Wanda Hurren lives in Victoria, BC. Her research focuses on notions of place and identity and she searches for ways to map the world so that links between places and identities are apparent. Her mapwork has been featured in several art exhibitions of text and image. She is a member of Crossgrains, one of the few remaining darkroom societies, and she is an associate professor in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction at the University of Victoria, where she teaches courses in curriculum theory and social studies curriculum.

Rebecca Lawton is a river lover, geologist, and Director of Programs at the nonprofit Sonoma Ecology Center. Her book about the river guiding life, *Reading Water: Lessons from the River* (Capital Books), was a San Francisco Chronicle Bay Area bestseller in 2008 and ForeWord Nature Book Finalist in 2003. Her just completed novel, *Oil and Water: A Novel of Junction, Utah*, was supported in part by the Ellen Meloy Desert Writers Award. Rebecca has published in journals such as *Sierra*, *Orion*, *San Francisco Chronicle Magazine*, *Contributions to Geology*, *Shenandoah*, and *THEMA*, and has been anthologized in the *Travelers Tales* anthologies, *Walking the Twilight* collections (Northland Publishers), *There's This River* (This Earth Press), and more. She is coauthor of *Write Free: Attracting the Creative Life* (with Jordan E. Rosenfeld; BeijaFlor Books), *Discover Nature in the Rocks* (with Diana Lawton, Susan Panttaja, and Irene Guidici Ehret; Stackpole Books), and *On Foot in Sonoma: Twelve Walks in the Valley of the Moon* (with Arthur Dawson; Kulupi Press). Her website address is www.beccalawton.com.

Ian MacRae is an Assistant Professor at Wilfrid Laurier University, Brantford, where he teaches in Canadian Literature, Documentary Film, and Environmental Studies. He completed his doctorate in Comparative Literature at the University of Toronto in 2006. His dissertation treated Canadian literature in an inter-American context, and was awarded the 2007 Canadian Association of Graduate Studies Distinguished Dissertation Award in the Fine Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences. He worked as a natural history documentary filmmaker for Canadian Geographic Presents for seven years, and has drawn on some of his field experiences for this article.

Ann E. Michael, poet, educator, and essayist, is a member of ASLE and a recipient of a poetry fellowship from the PA Council on the Arts. She has three chapbooks in print and has been published in numerous anthologies and literary journals. Currently, she is the Writing Coordinator at DeSales University in Center Valley, PA. Her website is www.annemichael.com

Susan K. Moore graduated with a PhD from the Graduate Division of Educational Research at the University of Calgary in June 2006. She was the Postdoctoral Fellow in Literature, Sustainability, and Culture in the Faculty of

Environmental Studies at York University, Toronto, 2006-2008. Her research interests include: hermeneutics, psychoanalytical theory in education and environmental studies, ecocriticism, and ethics.

Suzanne Northcott (cover artist) is an interdisciplinary artist working with installation, video, painting and drawing. Themes of isolation and connection are woven through her history of collaborative work with poets, scientists and artists in other genres. Northcott's art is widely published and found in private, corporate and public gallery collections, including The Surrey Art Gallery permanent collection. Awards include the McIvor Bentall award and the Spillsbury Bronze medal. Northcott has lived in historic Fort Langley, BC since 1996.

Joe Paczusi is a photographer and a Toronto high school teacher. His photography and the works of his photography students have been exhibited at a range of venues and have appeared in numerous publications. His work has been featured on the covers of books and journals, as well as in articles and chapters, including: *Canadian Art*, *Spotlight on Fine Arts*; *Poeisis: Journal of the Arts and Communication*; *English Teaching: Practice and Critique*; *Studio*, and *Fields of Green: Restorying Culture, Environment, and Education*. Exhibitions at public and private venues include: Queen West Art Crawl; Great Art Glad Heart: Benefit for Nellie's Women's Shelters; Gladstone Hotel; Praxis Gallery, and the Samuel J. Zacks Gallery. His research for his Masters degree at York University focuses on documentary photography as an agent of social change for disadvantaged youth.

Karleen Pendleton Jiménez is a writer and assistant professor in the School of Education at Trent University. Her recent publications include collection *Unleashing the Unpopular: Talking about Sexual Orientation and Gender Diversity in Education*, (co-edited with Isabel Killoran) and book chapters, "Teaching to the Learning Deficiencies of the Privileged," and "'Start with the Land': Groundwork for Chicana Pedagogy." Most recently she wrote the screenplay for the award-winning animation short film, *Tomboy*.

Deema K. Shehabi is a Palestinian-American poet. Her poems have appeared in various anthologies and literary journals including *Crab Orchard*, *Drunken Boat*, *Literary Imagination*, *The Kenyon Review*, *Inclined to Speak: Contemporary Arab-American Poetry*, and *The Poetry of Arab Women*. She has been twice nominated for a Pushcart prize and is currently the Vice-President of RAWI (the Radius of Arab-American Writers).

Priscila Uppal is a Toronto poet and fiction writer born in Ottawa. Among her publications are five collections of poetry: *How to Draw Blood From a Stone*, *Confessions of a Fertility Expert*, *Pretending to Die*, *Live Coverage*, and

Ontological Necessities, all with Exile Editions. Her novel, *The Divine Economy of Salvation*, was published to critical acclaim by Doubleday Canada and Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill and translated into Dutch and Greek. Her poetry has been translated into Korean, Croatian, Latvian, and Italian, and *Ontological Necessities* was short-listed for the Griffin Prize for Excellence in Poetry. She is a professor of Humanities and English at York University in Toronto. Her second novel, *To Whom It May Concern*, will be released by Doubleday Canada in January 2009. For more information please visit priscilauppal.ca

Kathleen Vaughan (MFA, PhD) is an award-winning visual artist, scholar, and teacher. She has taught at York University's Faculty of Education and the Ontario College of Art and Design, and on arts integration projects with children in Toronto schools, exploring themes of identity, belonging, and home. Currently, she divides her time between Toronto and Montreal, where she is Assistant Professor of Art Education in Concordia University's Faculty of Fine Arts. Her work can be further explored through her website, www.akared-handed.com and she can be reached directly kathleen@akared-handed.com.

Carol Anne Wien is a Professor in the Faculty of Education, York University, Toronto, Canada, specializing in Early Childhood Education. She is the author of *Developmentally Appropriate Practice in 'Real Life.'* *Negotiating Standards in the Primary Classroom*, and editor of *Emergent Curriculum in the Primary Classroom*. Her first book, *Turtle Drum*, is a collection of short fiction. She has long been a student of the Reggio Emilia approach, supporting educators and administrators in child care settings and schools in creating new practices for teaching and learning. She loves the arts, especially jazz and writing, and the hope and excitement of educators who have just seen new possibilities for what they might create.

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Translator

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Website

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