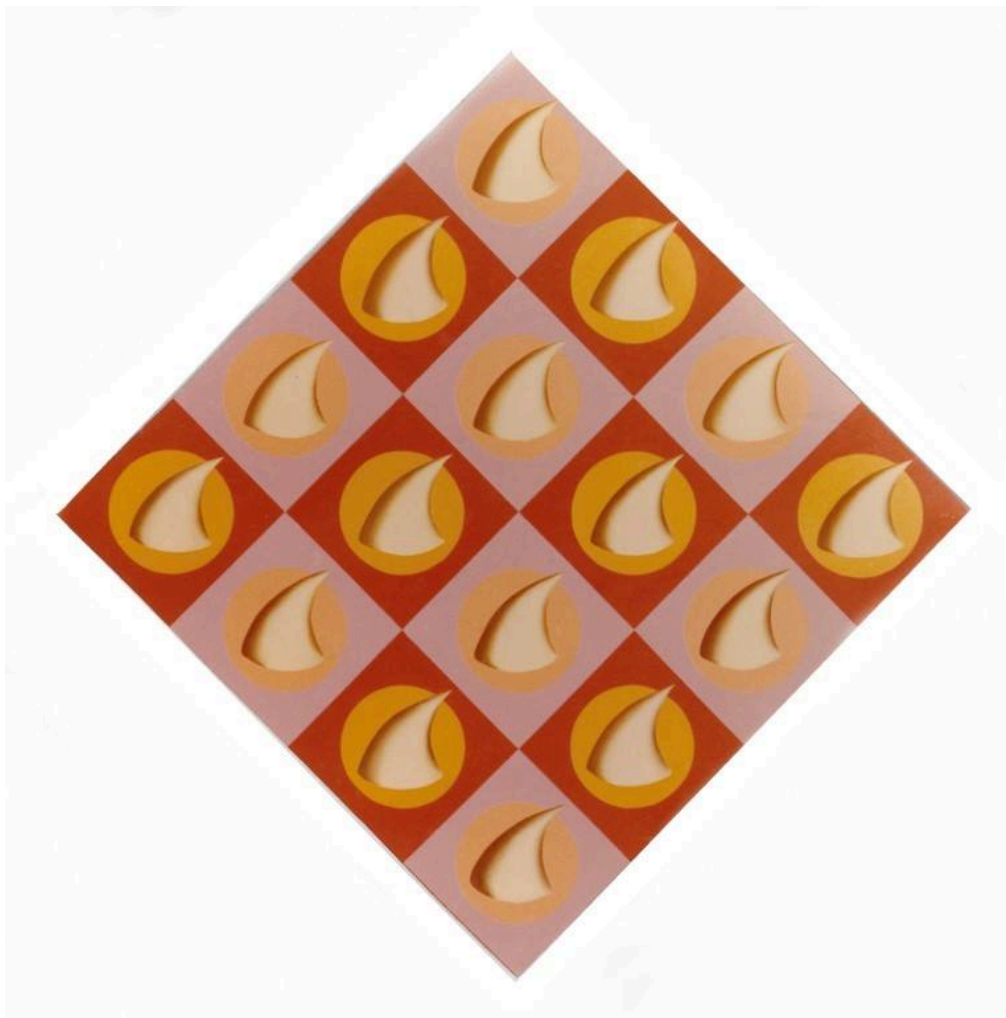


# THE CONCEPT OF VANCOUVER

The 30<sup>th</sup> Annual

## Two Days of Canada Conference

Hosted by The Centre for Canadian Studies, Brock University



# Territorial Acknowledgement

This conference takes place in the "Dish With One Spoon Territory." The Dish With One Spoon is a treaty between the Anishinaabe, Mississaugas, and Haudenosaunee that bound them to share the territory and protect the land. Subsequent Indigenous Nations and peoples, Europeans and all newcomers, have been invited into this treaty in the spirit of peace, friendship and respect. We would like to begin this conference by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of Anishinaabeg and Haudenosaunee peoples.

# The Concept of Vancouver

Vancouver, located on the unceded Coast Salish territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, Tsleil-Watuth, and Stó:lō First Nations, is an important nexus of art, literature, activism, and other forms of social and political organizing and expression within Canada. The two days of the conference are devoted to providing a historically-grounded, academically-rigorous, and aesthetically-charged survey of the manifold intersections between visual arts, literary arts, and the city of Vancouver. There will be plenary speakers, roundtable discussions, special topics panels, practical-skills workshops, public exhibitions of First Nations and Canadian art, musical performances, a public poetry reading, featured plenary addresses by Richard Cavell, Roy Miki, Lisa Robertson, Michael Turner, and Rita Wong, and a public keynote address by Canada's first Parliamentary Poet Laureate and winner of two Governor-General's Awards for Literature George Bowering. This event will bring together scholars, artists, writers, and activists to think through the conceptualizations of the histories, present, and possible futures of the city.

Cover image: "Jou Jouka" by Gregg Simpson (1973).

# Thursday 13 October 2016

Marilyn I. Walker School of Fine and Performing Arts, 15 Artists' Common, St Catharines, ON

Welcoming Remarks 10:00-10:30 MW156  
Carol Merriam, Dean of the Faculty of Humanities  
Gregory Betts, Director of the Centre for Canadian Studies

Session 1 10:30-11:45

## **A - Writing and Rewriting Vancouver MW 207**

Neta Gordon "Labour and Settlement in Michael Christie's *The Beggar's Garden*"  
Jessica Ratcliffe "Writing the Wild Side of Vancouver's Suburbs: Douglas Coupland's *Short Works*"  
Jeff Fedoruk "The Canadian Flavours of Creative Class Urbanism in Timothy Taylor's *Stanley Park*"  
Carl Watts "Fungible Ethnicity and Antimodernist Localism: Timothy Taylor's *Vancouver*"

## **B - Vancouver Communities and Archives MW156**

### **Panel Chair: Irene Loughlin**

Jason Wiens "ReReading the Kootenay School: From Archive to Repertoire"

Larissa Lai "The Telling It Collective: Lesbian/Feminist CrossRacial Coalition Building in Vancouver in the 1980s and 1990s"

Nicole Markotic "DEFIXED: rerooting around in Vancouver Poetics"

## **C Activist Cultures in Vancouver MW 211**

### **Panel Chair : Dennis Soron**

Markus Reisenleitner "Vancouver's Global Imaginary: Smartest, Greenest, Most Expensive?"

Felicity Taylor "The Concept of Vancouver: Conceptualizing "Our City""

Heather Smyth ""What it means to regroup": Vancouver in Wayne Compton's The Outer Harbour and Sachiko Murakami's Rebuild"

Session 2: 12:00-1:15

## **A Vancouver Poetries MW207**

### **Panel Chair: Stephen Cain**

Susan Knutson "Daphne Marlatt's "Shadow Catch""

Dani Spinosa "I want you to do me: Jim Andrews and New Media Poetry"

Joseph LaBine and Louis Cabri "New Poetics, New Work Writing: Two Kootenay School of Writing Colloquia"

Eric Schmaltz ""a new line has started:" The Borderblur Poetry of bissett, Clinton, and Farrell"

## **B Vancouver and Sexuality MW211**

### **Panel Chair: Rita Wong**

Alois Sieben "Antonette Rea's Street-Walking as Cognitive Mapping"

Sebastian Boersma "Queerness and the Dialectic at a Standstill: Reading at the Intersection of Redemption and Reparation"

Alison Dean "On Intimacy, Listening, and Heroines"

Susan Ingram "From Rationing to Ravishing: The Refashioning of Vancouver Circa 1948"

## **C Visual Arts in and of Vancouver MW156**

### **Panel Chair: Marcie Bronson**

Derek Knight "Global, vernacular and entropic preoccupations in Vancouver: Against beauty?"

Donna Szoke "Cascadia"

Kimberly Phillips "TwentyThree Days at Sea: On Pelagic Space and Access Gallery's Travelling Artist Residency"

Jamie Hilder "Private ArtistRun Spaces and the NeoSubject in Vancouver"

Lunch 1:15-2:30

Session 3: 2:30-3:45

**A - Shifting Vancouvers MW 207**

**Panel Chair: Jason Wiens**

David Eso "Telling and Tekahionwake: Chief Suápuluck's Vancouver"

Mathieu Aubin "Reintroducing Tish's Shitty Issues: Geopoetics and Social Revolution in Issues 20-45 (E)"

Derek Beaulieu "Un/Inhabited, Decomp and the cartography of the uninhabited page"

Katherine Ann Roberts "Drugs, conspiracy and (global) debordering in Chris Haddock's CBC crime television"

**B - Christos Dikeakos Talk MW156**

**Moderator: Derek Knight**

Christos Dikeakos "Counter-tradition and the Rise of Conceptual Photography"

Session 4: 4:00-4:45

**Keynote Plenary Talk MW156**

**Moderator: Julia Polyck-O'Neill**

Richard Cavell "Seeing Through Vancouver"

**Special Public Keynote Address**



7:00pm – 9:00pm

FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre, 250 St Paul St, St Catharines

**Keynote Address**

Moderator: Gregory Betts

**George Bowering: "Apollinaire's Vancouver"**

*With featured musical performances by  
Karin Di Bella and Devon Fornelli*

**Friday 14 October 2016**

**NAC DAY: The Concept of Vancouver: Reading and Seeing**

Niagara Artists Centre, 354 St. Paul St., St Catharines

10:00-11:00 – Session One

**Plenary Talks**

Roy Miki "Collaging Vancouver's False Creek: A Reading, A Talk"

Michael Turner "The Concept of Vancouver"

11:15-12:15 – Session Two

**Screening**

Steve McCaffery "Living Dusts" [Western Front video installation with Jeff Derksen]

**Lunch 12:15-1:30**

1:30-2:15 – Session Three

**Panel Discussion**

Deanna Fong - "What We Don't Talk About When We Talk About the Concept of Vancouver: Gender, Labour, and the Myth of Meritocracy"

Dana Claxton - "Under Salish Influence: Vancouver as a Site of Indigenous Autonomy"  
and short screening of The Patient Storm.

Moderated by Liz Howard

2:30-3:30 – Session Four

**Monologue**

Elizabeth Chitty "A List"

**Reading**

Joel Katelnikoff "Inhabitation: Fred Wah: 'where you are is who you are'."

**Performance**

Irene Loughlin "The Poetry of Bud Osborn"

Moderated by Julia Polyck-O'Neill

3:45-4:45 – Session Five

**Plenary Presentations**

Rita Wong "Building Watershed Peace"

Lisa Robertson "The Collective: A truly false history of the kootenay school of writing"

## Evening Celebration

7:00-7:30 – Session Six

Niagara Artists Centre, 354 St. Paul St., St Catharines, ON L2R 3N2

*Free Admission and Open to the Public*

Reception for two exhibitions at the NAC: closing event for **“Lunarian Life: a bill bissett retrospective”** + opening of **“Twenty-Three Days at Sea, Chapter One: Nour Bishouty, Christopher Boyne, Elisa Ferrari, Amaara Raheem”**



*Christopher Boyne, detail from Geneva, 2015 (wood, paint, brass). Studio documentation. Image courtesy of the artist.*

7:30-10:00

### **Joint Concept of Vancouver and Festival of Readers Poetry Reading:**

Lisa Robertson, bill bissett, David Buuck, Deanna Fong, and Phinder Dulai

Hosted by Julia Polyck-O'Neill and Andrew McEwan

### **Launch of Tripwire's Special Vancouver Issue**

**St. Catharines Poetry Slam** featuring Jaimie Godard, Sarah Burgess, and Blue Jay

**FOR**  
Festival of Readers  
St. Catharines



Brock University



# Transportation Information

Those staying in the conference hotel The Holiday Inn at 327 Ontario Street have the choice of driving, taking a taxicab, using public transit, or walking. **Walking** is about 35 minutes or 2.75 kilometres. **Public Transit** is 10 minutes via the 102 bus that picks up in front of the hotel. <http://www.yourbus.com/routes-schedules/> **Taxis** are available at 905.341.7811. All day **parking** is available at 71 Carlisle Street, near both conference sites.

## Venues

Thursday Morning (9:30-5pm): Marilyn I. Walker School of Fine and Performing Arts, 15 Artists' Common

Thursday Evening (7pm): FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre, 250 St. Paul Street

Friday all-day: Niagara Artists Centre, 354 St. Paul Street

<http://www.festivalofreaders.com/for-venues>

We would like to thank the following sponsors for the conference: The Centre for Canadian Studies at Brock University, The Departments of English Language & Literature, Visual Arts, Sociology, and History, and the Interdisciplinary Humanities PhD Program at Brock, Humanities Research Institute, Social Justice Research Institute, The Niagara Artists Centre, The Marilyn I. Walker School of Fine and Performing Arts, New Star Books, and the FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre. We gratefully acknowledge the support of the Ontario Arts Council and the City of St. Catharines. The following individuals have been key supporters in making this conference happy, and we gratefully acknowledge their help: Rebecca Cann, Ashley Judd-Rifkin, Maria Callaghan, Derek Knight, David Vivian, Paolo Granata, Tina Marie, Marian Bredin, Ann Howey, Natalee Caple, Kari-Lynn Winters, Clelia Scala, Jon Eben Field, Linda Hilko, Jean Baird, Rachel Hirsch, Alison Innes, rob mclennan, Chris Lowes, Mandeep Ippolito, and Sylvia Barlow.

**We would like to extend a special note of gratitude to Natasha Pedros and Steve Remus from the NAC for their dedicated efforts to bringing this conference series downtown.**

Of course, events like this don't happen without volunteers, and we are very grateful for the help of: Lisa Betts, Craig Hilimoniuk, Paul Coleman, Liat Margulis, Patrick Morris, Bart Gazzola, and Nicole Prowd.

**Thank you, all, from the Organizers of the Concept of Vancouver,**

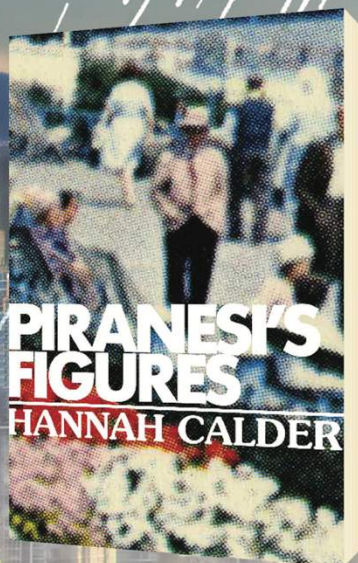
Gregory Betts, Julia Polyck-O'Neill, Andrew McEwan

*13-15 October 2016*

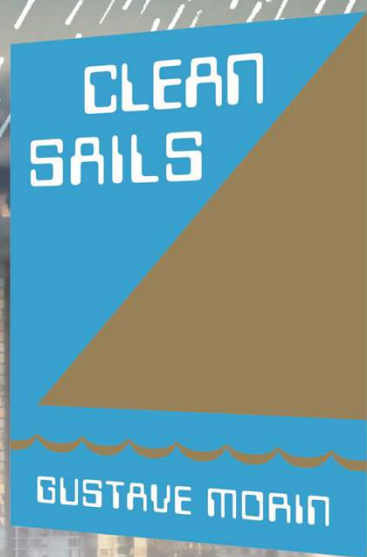


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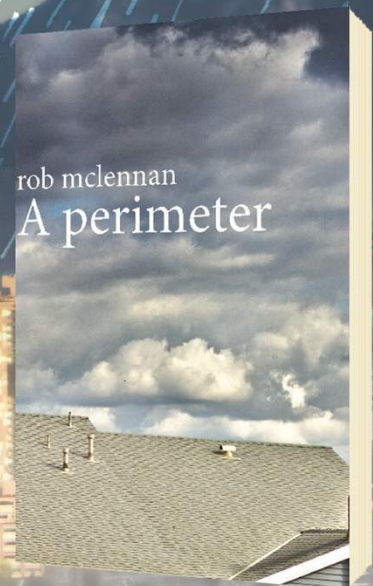
Publishing **George Bowering, Larissa Lai, Donato Mancini, Roy Miki, Lisa Robertson, Rita Wong**, and many more, since back when Kitsilano was cool.



Compelling and dream-like . . . daringly innovative storytelling.  
—*Vancouver Sun*



A strange, stunning book where every page impresses.  
—Jonathan Ball



These poems are shards, piercing and cutting through the dross of the world. —Marcus McCann