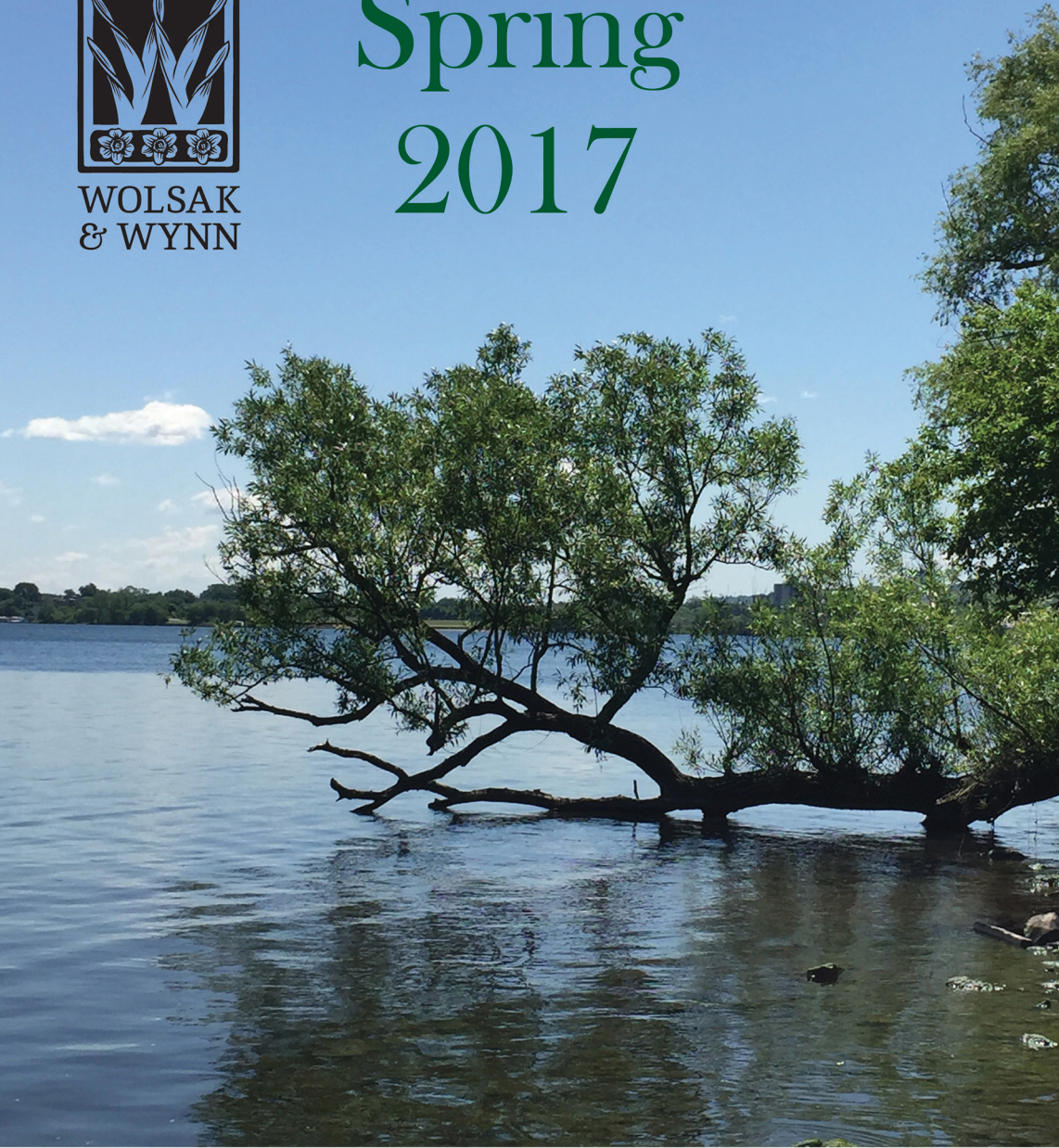




WOLSAK  
& WYNN

# Spring 2017



# WOLSAK & WYNN

## Contact:

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[www.wolsakandwynn.ca](http://www.wolsakandwynn.ca)

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WOLSAK  
& WYNN

## Dedicated to publishing clear, passionate Canadian voices

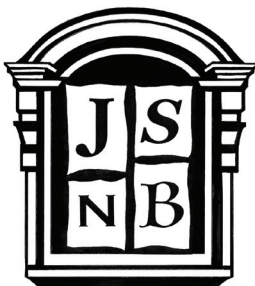
Wolsak and Wynn is an eccentric literary press based in the heart of Hamilton, Ontario. With steel mills on one side of us, the Niagara Escarpment on the other, and Toronto somewhere off in the distance, we spend our time producing brilliant, highly individual, and sometimes provocative books. With over 30 years of publishing behind us, we've won a number of awards for our books, from the Governor General's Award for Poetry to the Pigskin Peter's Award for Nominally Narrative Canadian Cartooning. Wolsak and Wynn publishes poetry, fiction, and non-fiction for nearly every taste.

### About our imprints:

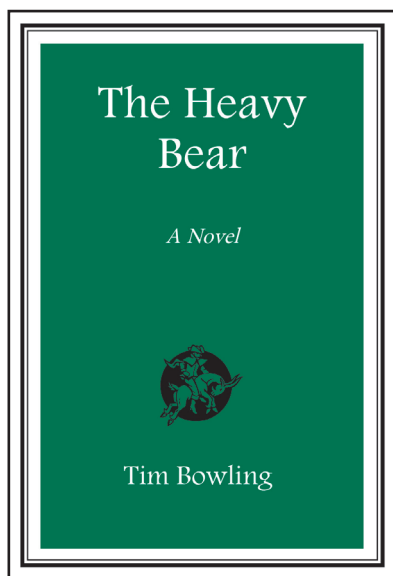
Buckrider Books features cutting-edge poetry and genre-bending fiction that challenge everyday literary conventions. On the outskirts of the mainstream, we feel these books represent the best that contemporary literature has to offer.

James Street North Books focuses on telling the stories of Hamilton, and the area around it, by the authors who live here. From histories of our institutions to collections of poems that capture the essence of our neighbourhoods, these books know our city intimately.

Poplar Press is devoted to books you want to read, rather than the books you perhaps should be reading. Whether the stories involve young heroes fending off giant centipedes or are childhood memories of snails escaping the cooking pot, along with a recipe for the snails, these books will keep you turning pages.



# SPRING & SUMMER FRONTLIST



## The Heavy Bear

TIM BOWLING

Fiction | Regional Interest

ISBN-13: 978-1-928088325

ISBN-10: 1-928088325

\$22.00 | trade paperback

5.75" x 8.5" | 250 pp

May 2017

**With ghosts, a bear, and a monkey, one of Canada's best writers takes readers on an enchanting adventure.**

What happens when a respectable middle-aged father, teacher, and writer decides one day to abandon his ordinary routine and embark on an unexpected journey toward an unknowable fate, following the ghost of Buster Keaton and a vision of a bear?

In Tim Bowling's fifth novel, **The Heavy Bear**, the main character—a sort of contemporary version of Joyce's Leopold Bloom who just happens to be named Tim Bowling—spends an intense late-summer day in downtown Edmonton. Haunted by “the slender sadness” of the world, and unable to face his afternoon class, Tim Bowling finds himself pulled into an escapade revolving around an antique toy, a capuchin monkey, and a young student our narrator likens to Pippi Longstocking. Accompanied by the shade of the silent-film star Buster Keaton, and the bear-shaped spirit of the American poet Delmore Schwartz, Bowling's Tim Bowling must confront, with equal parts humour and sincerity, a fundamental problem of our age: how to make and maintain human connections in a world that seems intent on destroying them?

### Praise for Tim Bowling:

“Bowling's great skill as a writer is to take the epochal and render it intimate, rescaling events without losing any of their significance ... His characterizations are rich and fully rounded, his plotting is tight without ever seeming programmatic, and his language is that of a poet: precise and measured.” —Robert J. Wiersema, *Globe and Mail*

TIM BOWLING is one of Canada's most accomplished writers. His 18 books of poetry, fiction, and non-fiction have been shortlisted for major national prizes, including a Writers' Trust Award, a Governor General's Literary Award, and a Canadian Authors Association Award. His writing has also been nominated 12 times for the Alberta Book Awards and nine times for the City of Edmonton Book Prize. In 2008, the Guggenheim Foundation awarded Bowling a fellowship in recognition of his entire body of work. He lives in Edmonton.

### SALES & MARKETING:

- Launches in Edmonton, Hamilton, and Toronto.
- Ontario tour with stops in Ottawa, Kingston, and Kitchener.
- Festival submissions, including IFOA, Thin Air: Winnipeg International Writers Festival, Banff-Calgary Wordfest, and Vancouver Writers Fest.
- Social media push with online interviews, blog posts, Twitter and Facebook campaigns, and Goodreads giveaways.
- ARCs to national, international, and regional media.

# SPRING & SUMMER FRONTLIST

## Yardwork

### The Biography of an Urban Place

DANIEL COLEMAN

Nature | Geography

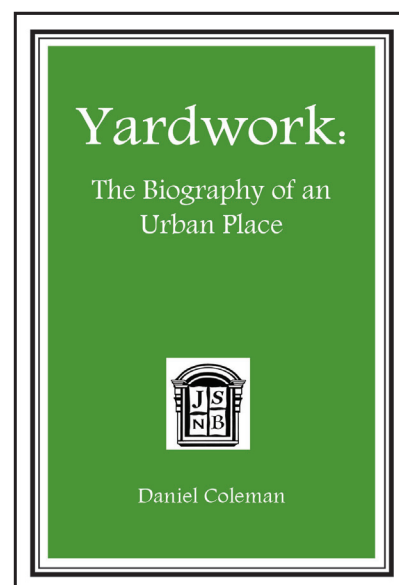
ISBN-13: 978-1-928088288

ISBN-10: 1-928088287

\$22.00 | trade paperback

5.75" x 8.5" | 250 pp | 5 b&w illustrations

April 2017



**From the pre-Cambrian era to the return of the bald eagle, Daniel Coleman traces the stories of Hamilton.**

Daniel Coleman is looking to find a home. After a childhood that left him feeling placeless, he ended up in Hamilton, Ontario, one of Canada's most polluted cities at the time. **Yardwork** is his attempt to put down roots in a place he never expected to be. Coleman decided he wanted to truly know and belong to a small piece of land, his patch of garden on the edge of the Niagara Escarpment, to deeply understand its ecology, landscape, and history. Starting with the creation myths and geology, moving through the settler era and up to the present, Coleman pours his considerable talents into learning, and sharing, as much of the story of the land as possible. Most books on ecology focus either on protecting the wilderness or analyzing a toxic dump. Most books on gardens focus on plant health or landscape design. Most books on Indigenous-settler relations focus on politics or social inequities. **Yardwork** meditates on the sedimentary layers of ecological, cultural, and political stories that make up Hamilton, the escarpment city at the Head of the Lake. Along the way Coleman strives to build a new awareness of the place where he lives as sacred land.

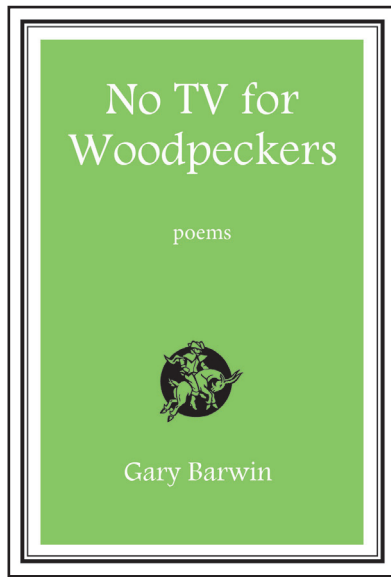
DANIEL COLEMAN was born and raised the child of Canadian missionary parents in Ethiopia, an experience he has written about in *The Scent of Eucalyptus: A Missionary Childhood in Ethiopia*. He moved to the Canadian prairies in the 1980s and completed his PhD in Canadian Literature at the University of Alberta in 1995. He went on to publish scholarly books on Canadian immigrant writing and on how Canada became a white, British place. Since 1997, he has lived in Hamilton, Ontario, where he teaches Canadian Literature at McMaster University.

#### SALES & MARKETING:

- Launches in Toronto and Hamilton.
- Western tour with stops in Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, and Vancouver.
- Festival submissions, including IFOA, BookFest Windsor, and Kingston WritersFest.
- Social media push with online interviews, blog posts, Twitter and Facebook campaigns, and Goodreads giveaways.
- ARCs to national and regional media.



# SPRING & SUMMER FRONTLIST



## No TV for Woodpeckers

GARY BARWIN

Canadian Poetry

ISBN-13: 978-1-928088301

ISBN-10: 1-928088309

\$18.00 | trade paperback

5.75" x 8.5" | 80 pp

April 2017

**Barwin's ability to evoke wonder with language helps us see the world with new eyes.**

In the pages of Gary Barwin's latest collection of poetry, **No TV for Woodpeckers**, the lines between haunting and hilarious, wondrous and weird, beautiful and beastly, are blurred in the most satisfying ways. No stranger to poetic experimentation, Barwin employs a range of techniques from the lyrical to the conceptual in order to explore loss, mortality, family, the self, and our relationship to the natural world. Many of these poems reveal a submerged reality full of forgotten, unknown, or invisible life forms that surround us—that are us. Within this reality, Barwin explores the connection between bodies, language, culture, and the environment. He reveals how we construct both self and reality through these relationships and also considers the human in relation to the concepts of “nature” and “the animal.” As philosophical as it is entertaining—weaving together threads of surrealism, ecopoetics, Dada, and more—**No TV for Woodpeckers** is a complex and multi-layered work that offers an unexpected range of pleasures.

### Praise for Gary Barwin:

“Among contemporary poets, Barwin stands out as exceptional for his ability to plunder the synesthetic splendor of words. His poems ... are at once so spacious, intensely visual, and alert to sound that it's possible to become convinced words are endowed with flavors and smells—exotic, fragrant candies that stain the tongue with color.” —*ForeWord*

GARY BARWIN is a writer, composer, multimedia artist, and the author of 20 books of poetry, fiction and books for children. His recent books include *Yiddish for Pirates* and the poetry collection *Moon Baboon Canoe*. A PhD in music composition, Barwin has been Writer-in-Residence at Western University, the Toronto Public Library, and several shelters/custody facilities with ArtForms' Writers in the House program for at-risk youth. Born in Northern Ireland to South African parents of Ashkenazi descent, Barwin moved to Canada as a child. He lives in Hamilton, Ontario.

### SALES & MARKETING:

- Launches in Toronto and Hamilton.
- Western tour with stops in Calgary, Edmonton, and Vancouver.
- Festival submissions, including IFOA, Edmonton Poetry Festival, Saskatchewan Festival of Words, and Ottawa International Writers Festival.
- Social media push with online interviews, blog posts, Twitter and Facebook campaigns, and Goodreads giveaways.
- ARCs to national and regional media.

# SPRING & SUMMER FRONTLIST

## Dear Ghost,

CATHERINE OWEN

Canadian Poetry

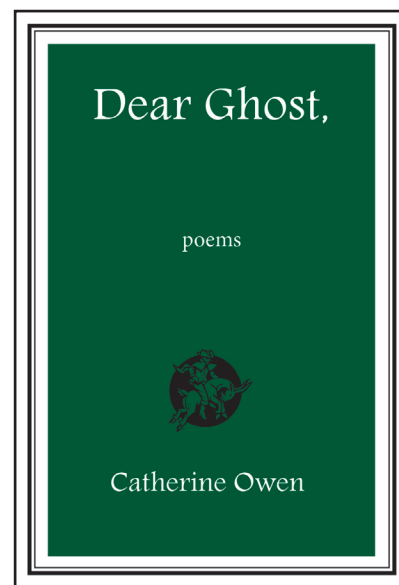
ISBN-13: 978-1-928088318

ISBN-10: 1-928088317

\$18.00 | trade paperback

5.75" x 8.5" | 80 pp

April 2017



**Weaving together non sequiturs, disjointed observations, and snippets of conversation *Dear Ghost*, is captivatingly absurd.**

Catherine Owen's latest collection is an extended love letter to her poetic influences and to the real-world objects, people, places, and situations that fascinate her. Inspired by the work of John Ashbery, among others, in **Dear Ghost**, Owen returns to the kooky imagery and humorous style she last visited with her award-winning collection *Frenzy*. These poems entertain immensities of sound while plumbing the depths of the psyche's surrealities, content to enter a dreamlike realm where meaning is found in the nonsensical, the utterly human, and the everyday. While Owen gathers her subjects from the mundane—work, sex, acquaintances, and art—she imbues them with the extraordinary quirks and uncertainties that only language can create, and the effects are dizzying.

### Praise for Catherine Owen:

"Owen's gorgeous sensory language invites us to travel along with her and find a way through our own pain." —Esther Griffin, *PRISM International*

"Catherine Owen's latest poetry collection, *Designated Mourner*, is unsettling in the best possible sense." —David Huebert, *Malahat Review*

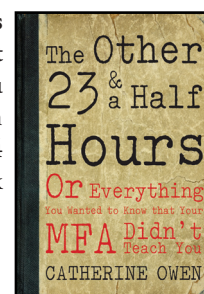
CATHERINE OWEN lives in downtown New Westminster, BC, with a view of the Fraser River. She is the author of ten collections of poetry, and three of prose, including essays, interviews and stories. Her work has been nominated for a range of awards and won the Alberta Book Prize in 2010. When she's not writing poetry, Owen works in the props department for the TV show *Arrow* and plays metal bass, often in collaboration with filmmakers, photographers and other artists.

### SALES & MARKETING:

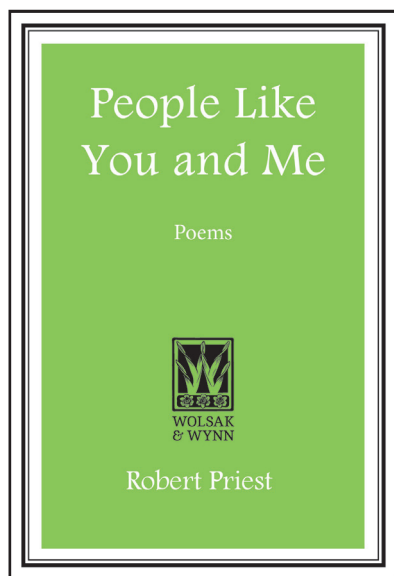
- Launches in Vancouver, Toronto, and Hamilton.
- Extensive Canadian tour with stops in St. Catharines, Ottawa, Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, and Lunenburg, NS.
- Festival submissions, including Vancouver Writers Fest and Ottawa International Writers Festival, and major reading series.
- Social media push with online interviews, blog posts, Twitter and Facebook campaigns, and Goodreads giveaways.
- ARCs to national, international, and regional media.

### ALSO AVAILABLE:

**The Other 23 & a Half Hours  
Or Everything You Wanted to Know that  
Your MFA Didn't Teach You**  
by Catherine Owen  
ISBN-13: 978-1-928088004  
\$20.00 | trade paperback



# SPRING & SUMMER FRONTLIST



## People Like You and Me

ROBERT PRIEST

Children's Poetry

ISBN-13: 978-1-928088295

ISBN-10: 1-928088295

\$10.00 | trade paperback

5.75" x 8.5" | 72 pp | Ages 6-12

10 b&w illustrations

May 2017

**With catchy rhymes and wonderful storytelling Robert Priest shows young readers how to change the world.**

Robert Priest returns to children's poetry in this lively collection, where he puts his pen to creating rhymes about "People Like You and Me," and shows how everyone can make a difference in the world. From the builders of ancient Sumer to the return of wolves to Yellowstone National Park, Priest spins story-poems that tell how the world and all its peoples and creatures are interconnected and invites young readers to join in his wonder at this magic. The collection will again be illustrated by the wonderful pen and ink drawings of Joan Krygsman, who partnered with Priest on *Rosa Rose*. In **People Like You and Me**, several of the poems will be presented along with a musical score to better delight listeners.

### Praise for Robert Priest:

"Strong, lively and immediately engaging poems about progressive heroes, from Deepa Mehta to Elijah Harper to Muhammad Ali."  
—CBCBooks

"*Rosa Rose and Other Poems* is a beautiful poetry collection that needs to be on every child's bookshelf and is sure to make young readers lovers of history and poetry." —*Canadian Materials Magazine*

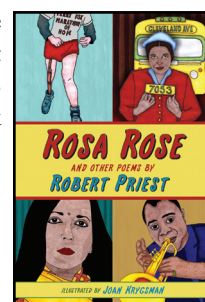
As a performer of his own poetry and songs, ROBERT PRIEST has been delighting children and their parents for 25 years. Robert has also written and performed segments for *Sesame Street*, and *Eric's World*. His last book of children's poetry with Wolsak and Wynn, *Rosa Rose*, won a silver medal in the Moonbeam Children's Book Awards and an honourable mention in the Lion and the Unicorn Award for Excellence in North American Poetry. Robert lives in Toronto.

### SALES & MARKETING:

- Launches in Toronto and Hamilton.
- Ontario tour with stops in Ottawa, Kingston, and Kitchener.
- Festival submissions, including IFOA, Winnipeg International Writers Festival, and Telling Tales.
- Social media push with online interviews, blog posts, Twitter and Facebook campaigns, and Goodreads giveaways.
- ARCs to national and regional media.

### ALSO AVAILABLE:

**Rosa Rose**  
by Robert Priest  
ISBN-13: 978-1-894987738  
\$10.00 | trade paperback



# SPRING & SUMMER FRONTLIST

## The Complete Works of Oliverio Girondo, Vol. I

OLIVERIO GIRONDO

TRANSLATED BY HUGH HAZELTON

Poetry | Spanish, Translation

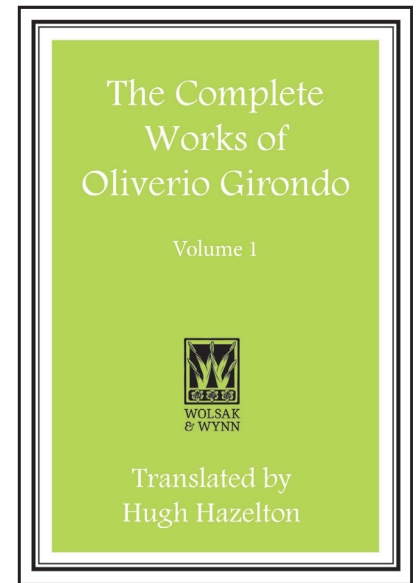
ISBN-13: 978-1-928088332

ISBN-10: 1-928088333

\$25.00 | trade paperback

5.75" x 8.5" | 200 pp

June 2017



**The first English translation of the full works of famed Argentine poet Oliverio Girondo, from an award-winning translator.**

Virtually unknown in the English-speaking world, Oliverio Girondo was a key figure in the Argentine avant-garde movement, a noted editor (for the magazines *Proa*, *Prisma*, and *Martín Fierro*), and an accomplished writer. He is considered one of the great poets of Latin America, but has only had portions of his work translated into English. This is the first volume of a two volume facing-page translation done by award-winning translator Hugh Hazelton. The first volume will consist of: *Veinte poemas para ser leídos en el tranvía*, *Calcomanías*, *Membretes*, *Espantapájaros*, “Scarecrow”, and *Interlunio*.

*The train cars slip  
over the frets of the rails  
singing the landscape's strength  
on their two cords.*  
-from “Express Train”

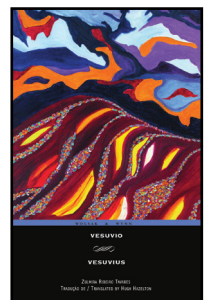
HUGH HAZELTON is a writer and translator who specializes in the work of Latin American writers living in Canada, as well as in comparisons between Canadian and Quebec literatures and those of the Southern Cone (Argentina, Chile, and Uruguay). He has published four books of poetry and has translated eleven books from Spanish and French into English. His translation of *Vétiver* (Signature Editions 2005), a collection of poems by the Haitian-Canadian writer Joël Des Rosiers, won the Governor General's Award for French-English translation in 2006. He lives in Montreal.

### SALES & MARKETING:

- Launches in Toronto and Montreal.
- Social media push with online interviews, blog posts, Twitter and Facebook campaigns, and Goodreads giveaways.
- ARCs to national and regional media.

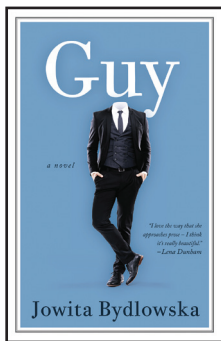
### ALSO AVAILABLE:

**Vesuvius**  
by Zulmira Ribeiro Tavares  
translated by Hugh Hazelton  
**ISBN-13: 978-1-894987813**  
\$20.00 | trade paperback





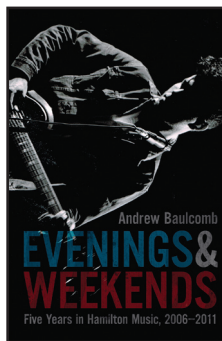
# BACKLIST HIGHLIGHTS



**Guy**  
JOWITA BYDLOWSKA

Fiction | Buckrider Books  
**ISBN-13: 978-1-928088233**  
Fall 2016 | trade paperback  
\$20.00

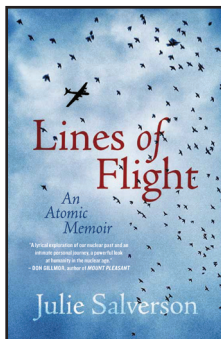
"**Guy** is devastating and hilarious. It's brutal and destructive and life-affirming. It's a must read. Jowita Bydlowska isn't just one of this nation's bravest writers, she's one of our best." —Joseph Boyden, author of *The Orenda*



**Evenings & Weekends**  
**Five Years in Hamilton Music, 2006-2011**  
ANDREW BAULCOMB

Music | James Street North Books  
**ISBN-13: 978-1-928088240**  
Fall 2016 | trade paperback  
\$20.00

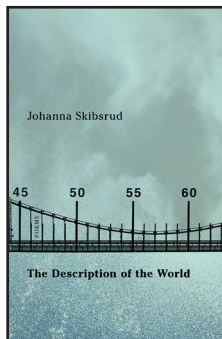
"The intensity and insight [Baulcomb] brings to a remarkably fertile time in one of our country's most creative—and consistently underestimated—musical communities regularly took me off the couch and over to my record collection to revisit innumerable forgotten favourites." —Sam Sutherland, author of *Perfect Youth: The Birth of Canadian Punk*



**Lines of Flight**  
**An Atomic Memoir**  
JULIE SALVERSON

Non-Fiction  
**ISBN-13: 978-1-928088257**  
Fall 2016 | trade paperback  
\$20.00

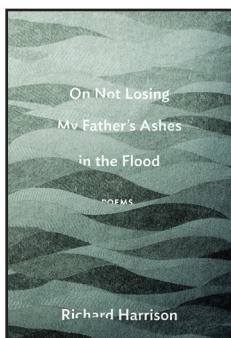
"Julie Salverson is a deeply sympathetic witness to the atomic era. In this powerful memoir, the spectre of nuclear winter haunts the stories she tells. The book wrung me out. Insightful and beautifully written, it draws together Hiroshima and Port Radium, Fukushima and Port Hope, past and present." —John O'Brian, author of *Atomic Postcards*



**The Description of the World**  
JOHANNA SKIBSRUD

Poetry | Buckrider Books  
**ISBN-13: 978-1-928088219**  
Fall 2016 | trade paperback  
\$18.00

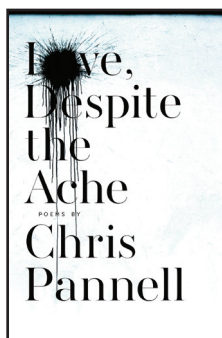
A new poetry collection from the Giller Prize-winning author of *The Sentimentalists* and *Quartet for the End of Time*. With lines that are searching, but spacious, Skibsrud deftly turns over ideas of perception and reality, inviting us to join her as she releases the abstract figure from its painting, or brings the poet in from the wilderness.



**On Not Losing My Father's Ashes in the Flood**  
RICHARD HARRISON

Poetry | Buckrider Books  
**ISBN-13: 978-1-928088226**  
Fall 2016 | trade paperback  
\$18.00

Combining elements of memoir, elegy, lyrical essay, and personal correspondence, **On Not Losing My Father's Ashes in the Flood** is a generous and enchanting book, one that leaves you, like the poet, thinking about the way "characters in a novel can escape anything / except their story."

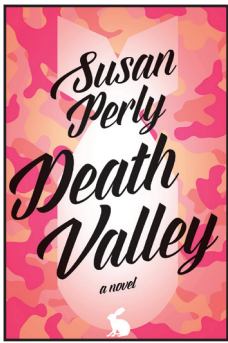


**Love, Despite the Ache**  
CHRIS PANNELL

Poetry | James Street North Books  
**ISBN-13: 978-1-928088158**  
Fall 2016 | trade paperback  
\$18.00

From the winner of the Acorn-Plantos Award and the Hamilton Literary Award for Poetry comes a deeply felt collection that confronts love, loss, and our own mortality. In lines that are clear, honest, and specific, Pannell unpacks his family histories, examining morning breakfasts and seafaring uncles, wending his way through memories that "jostle like a pack of hungry cats."

# BACKLIST HIGHLIGHTS

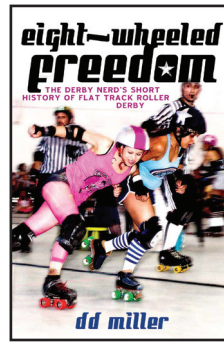


## Death Valley SUSAN PERLY

Fiction | Buckrider Books  
**ISBN-13: 978-1-928088103**  
 Spring 2016 | trade paperback  
 \$22.00

**Nominee, 2016 Scotiabank Giller Prize**

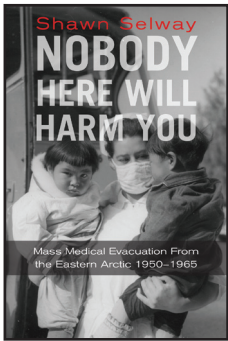
"Hypnotic and startling, with a cast of troubled artists and agents, this sensual novel is a lush fever dream of power, politics, betrayal and revenge. With scenes so vivid and unflinching and downright bizarre, this novel gets under your skin like the desert sand at its core." —Jennifer LoveGrove, author of *Watch How We Walk*



## Eight-Wheeled Freedom

The Derby Nerd's Short History of Flat Track Roller Derby  
 D. D. MILLER  
 Non-Fiction  
**ISBN-13: 978-1-928088134**  
 Spring 2016 | trade paperback  
 \$20.00

"Miller's passionate account of the rise and success of Canadian roller derby is so well woven into the fabric of the sport's global history that this book is not only an essential collection of soon-to-be well-known anecdotes, but an important component to understanding roller derby's unique cultural impact." —Jennifer "Kasey Bomber" Barbee, co-author of *Down and Derby*

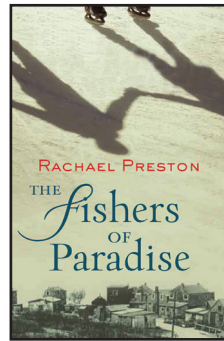


## Nobody Here Will Harm You: Mass Medical Evacuation from the Eastern Arctic, 1950- 1965

SHAWN SELWAY

Non-Fiction | James Street North Books  
**ISBN-13: 978-1-928088097**  
 Fall 2016 | trade paperback  
 \$25.00 | 19 b&w photos

"Immensely readable, this exhaustively researched account of a forgotten moment in Canadian medical history should be compulsory reading for every student in the health and political sciences." —Susan Evans Shaw, author of *Canadians at War*

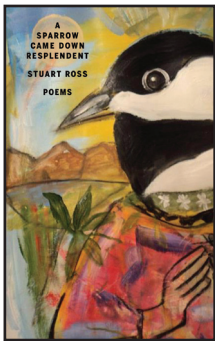


## The Fishers of Paradise

RACHAEL PRESTON

Fiction | James Street North Books  
**ISBN-13: 978-1-928088165**  
 Spring 2016 | trade paperback  
 \$22.00

"The landscape alone would have won me over, but it's the story that makes Rachael Preston's novel truly irresistible. Set in the last, drawn-out days of the boathouse community of Cootes Paradise in Hamilton in the 1930s, the book dives to the muddy bottom of uncertainty and insecurity; to the violations to body and soul." —John Terpstra, author of *The Boys, Or, Waiting for the Electrician's Daughter*



## A Sparrow Came Down Resplendent

STUART ROSS

Poetry | Buckrider Books  
**ISBN-13: 978-1-928088110**  
 Spring 2016 | trade paperback  
 \$18.00

Punctuated with his more surreal verse, portraits of family members, friends, mentors—even himself—are rendered with arresting care and delicacy. Readers, whether they are familiar with his work or new to it, will be drawn into the warm honesty of these poems, and be disarmed by the unruly humour of his more audacious inventions.



## Kids in Triage

KILBY SMITH-McGREGOR

Poetry | Buckrider Books  
**ISBN-13: 978-1-928088127**  
 Spring 2016 | trade paperback  
 \$18.00

"A bone-deep understanding of history, both personal and public. And yet the poet somehow balances the necessary emotional distance with empathy, tenderness and dark wit. Beyond that there's an obvious joy in the care that goes with good writing—gusts of cadence, fired language and glimpsed insight that left me breathless." —Gil Adamson, author of *The Outlander*