



Eleanor Wachtel

"Eleanor Wachtel is one of the very finest interviewers of authors I've come across anywhere in the world."—Kazuo Ishiguro

Eleanor Wachtel is the award-winning host of CBC Radio's "Writers & Company" and

"Wachtel on the Arts." Four books of her interviews have been published, including *Original Minds* and *Random Illuminations: Conversations With Carol Shields*. She has been widely honoured for her work. She has received the Jack Award for the promotion of Canadian books, eight honorary degrees and the Order of Canada.

Schedule

Friday, June 24 at the Yukon Arts Centre

7:30pm **Poetry Bash** with Elizabeth Bachinsky, bill bissett, John Pass, Miranda Pearson, Clea Roberts, David Seymour, Karen Solie, Rhea Tregobov and guest host Eleanor Wachtel

Saturday, June 25 at the Old Fire Hall

11am–noon **Craft Talk: The Lives of Writers** with Eleanor Wachtel
noon–1:30pm Lunch Break
1:45–2:45pm **Eleanor Wachtel in Conversation with Rhea Tregobov and Karen Solie**
3pm–4pm **Poetry Reading** (Q&A to follow) with Miranda Pearson and bill bissett
4:15–5:15pm **Poetry Reading** (Q&A to follow) with Karen Solie, David Seymour, Elizabeth Bachinsky

Sunday, June 26 at the Old Fire Hall

11am–noon **Panel Discussion: Tips for New Writers** with Elizabeth Bachinsky, Clea Roberts, David Seymour
noon–1:30pm Lunch Break
1:45–2:45pm **Poetry Reading** (Q&A to follow) with John Pass, Rhea Tregobov
3pm–4pm **Panel Discussion: The Poet's Craft** with Miranda Pearson, John Pass, bill bissett
7pm **Yukon Poetry Night** with Clea Roberts and other local poets as well as a memorial talk on Alaska poet John Haines by Erling Friis Baastad



June 24–26, 2011

at the Yukon Arts Centre and the Old Fire Hall

Weekend Pass \$41
Day Pass \$20

Tickets available at Arts Underground, the Yukon Arts Centre and yukonartscentre.com

For more information
867-335-6403
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whitehorsepoetry.com
TWITTER Whitehorse Poetry
FACEBOOK Whitehorse Poetry Society

The Whitehorse Poetry Festival is a Whitehorse Poetry Society event.

This year's festival is dedicated to the memory of Alaska poet John Haines (1924–2011).

Thank you to our sponsors



Canada Council for the Arts



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June 24–26, 2011
A celebration of fresh poetry



Featuring

Elizabeth Bachinsky bill bissett
John Pass Miranda Pearson
Clea Roberts David Seymour
Karen Solie Rhea Tregobov
and guest host Eleanor Wachtel



2011 Whitehorse Poetry Festival

About the poets



Elizabeth Bachinsky

"Elizabeth Bachinsky knows not only how to hot-wire and fine-tune a poem, but also how to provide just the right blend of sound, image and torque to make it move. Be transported."

—Gary Geddes

Elizabeth Bachinsky is the author of three collections of poetry, *Curio* (2005), *Home of Sudden Service* (2006), and *God of Missed Connections* (2009). Her work has been nominated for the Pat Lowther Award, the Kobzar Literary Award, the Bronwen Wallace Award, the George Ryga Award for Social Awareness in Literature and the Governor General's Award for Poetry. Her work has appeared in literary journals, anthologies and on film in Canada, the United States, France, Ireland, England, China and Lebanon. She lives in Vancouver where she is an instructor of creative writing and the Editor of *Event* magazine.



bill bissett

"The greatest living poet today."

—Jack Kerouac

The author of over 70 volumes of poetry, Bill Bissett is an internationally renowned pioneer of sound and performance poetry. Best known for his use of unique orthography, incorporating visual elements in his printed poetry, his performances of "concrete sound" poetry, sound effects and chanting, critics have called him a visionary, a linguistic mystic and a "one man civilization." Recent collections include *time* (2010), *sublingual* (2008) and *northern wild roses* (2005). He has received many awards including the George Woodcock Lifetime Achievement Award, BC Book Prizes Dorothy Livesay Prize and the Milton Acorn People's Poetry Award.



John Pass

"John Pass's poems are luminous meditations engaging us in form and style with emotion, spirit and thought."

—Judges' comments, Governor General's Literary Award

John Pass's most recent books of poetry include *The Hour's Acropolis* (1991), *Radical Innocence* (1994), *Water Stair* (2000) and *Stumbling In The Bloom* (2005). *The Hour's Acropolis* and *Water Stair* were shortlisted for the Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize (BC Book Prizes). *Water Stair* was also a finalist for the Governor General's Award. *Stumbling In The Bloom* won the Governor General's Award in 2006. A new book, *Crawlspace*, is forthcoming in 2011. John Pass lives on 8.5 acres of forest, garden and orchard near Sakinaw Lake on BC's Sunshine Coast with his wife, writer Theresa Kishkan.



Miranda Pearson

"Powerful, evocative, and unexpected, Miranda Pearson's poetry explores the dark heart of our relationships, probing these shadows with metaphor and paradox."

—Esta Spalding

Miranda Pearson is the author of three collections of poetry, *Prime* (2001), *The Aviary* (2006) and most recently *Harbour* (2009). *Harbour* was shortlisted for the BC Book Prize, and Miranda has been invited to read from it at various literary festivals including the Vancouver International Writers Festival and Word Play in Scotland. Miranda Pearson lives in Vancouver where she teaches creative writing at Simon Fraser University.



Clea Roberts

"There is a northerly edge to Clea Roberts' poems, and it extends past the obvious content. These are poems whose delight lies in seeing, and listening, afresh."

—Don McKay

Clea Roberts lives in Whitehorse, Yukon on the Takhini River. Her first book of poetry, *Here Is Where We Disembark*, was published by Freehand Books in Fall 2010 and was shortlisted for the Canadian League of Poets Gerald Lampert Memorial Award. She has received fellowships from the Vermont Studio Centre and the Atlantic Centre for the Arts and is a three time recipient of the Government of Yukon Advanced Artist Award. Her poetry has appeared in literary journals across Canada including *The Malahat Review*, *The Dalhousie Review* and *PRISM international*.



David Seymour

"Through its multifaceted suites and its fugue, its haiku and haibun, Inter Alia creates a space in which many voices live in unity, musically entwined with true silence."

—Warren Heiti

David Seymour's book, *Inter Alia* (2005) was shortlisted for the Gerald Lampert Award for the best first book of poetry in Canada. His essays, poetry and reviews continue to be published widely in literary journals. Most recently his poetry was shortlisted for the CBC Literary Award and twice has been selected for the annual anthology *Best Canadian Poetry*. David is currently living in Toronto, where he is at work on a second and third manuscript.



Karen Solie

"Solie's poems remind me there's a wild, amoral joy at the centre of making metaphors."

—Don McKay

Karen Solie launched to prominence in 2001 with her debut collection of poetry, *Short Haul Engine*, which won the BC Book Prize Dorothy Livesay Award and was shortlisted for the Gerald Lampert Award and the Griffin Poetry Prize. Her second book, *Modern and Normal* (2005), was shortlisted for the Trillium Poetry Prize and included on the *Globe and Mail's* list of the 100 best books of 2005. Solie is now considered one of Canada's best poets. Her third collection, *Pigeon* (2009), won the Pat Lowther Award, the Trillium Poetry Prize and the Griffin Poetry Prize.



Rhea Tregebov

"For decades, Rhea Tregebov has been writing poems of penetrating honesty. The clarity of her voice is deeply moving, a voice at home in its skin, entirely aware, deeply compassionate."

—Anne Michaels

Rhea Tregebov is the author of six critically acclaimed books of poetry, most recently (*alive*): *New and selected poems* (2004). Her seventh collection of poetry, tentatively titled "Abundance," will be published in 2012. Her poetry has received the Pat Lowther Award, the Prairie Schooner Readers' Choice Award and the Malahat Review Long Poem Award. Her novel, *The Knife Sharpener's Bell* (2009), won the J. I. Segal Award and was a *Globe and Mail* Top 100 Book. Rhea Tregebov is an assistant professor of creative writing at the University of British Columbia, where she teaches workshops in poetry and translation.