the Vicious Circle

presents



October 12-14, 2012

REGISTER FOR FESTIVAL PROGRAMS EVENTS ONLINE www.theviciouscircle.ca

WHISTLER READERS & WRITERS FESTIVAL Program



Do not spoil what you have by desiring what you have not; remember that what you now have was once among the things you only hoped for.

Epicurus Greek philosopher, BC 341-270



The evening of October

13th will see a fireside chat entitled *Wine, Books* and *Jazz,* hosted by our very own scribe Stephen Vogler, and featuring our guest authors in conversation.

We've partnered with the Fungus **Among Us** folks to offer a session unique to our festival, entitled **Spore Prose**. Fungus Among Us Mushroom Festival stars, Andy MacKinnon and Paul Kroeger, will talk about their writing experiences, mushrooms, and the unlikely link between John Steinbeck and a mushroom book for the Queen Charlotte Islands. After their talk, these engaging speakers are happy to identify any strange mushrooms you may have picked up along the way.

And we've added a panel discussion on Sunday for all those interested in making films entitled *Writing and Film*

films entitled *Writing and Film* as well as a session called *Muffin Break*, where you can share a coffee and muffin with local authors.

Welcome to our festival. Thank you for your support. We could not have done it without you. Enjoy!



by Stella Harvey, Festival Director

Welcome to the 11th annual Whistler Readers and Writers Festival. Each year we strive to bring the very best Canadian and international authors to Whistler. During the festival weekend we offer a combination of developmental workshops for emerging and experienced writers, panel discussions, and reading and spoken word events with award winning authors. In 2011 close to 300 people attended the festival. We could not have dreamed of such numbers when we started down this road eleven years ago. So Epicurus is right. Where we are now was once among the things we only hoped for. And we are grateful to all those who have supported us and helped us grow. We realize how far we've come and promise to continue to strive to do better.

In addition to our signature events, we have added some unique sessions that will draw an ever-increasing audience to the wonders of writing and reading. See details in sidebar at left.

We are proud to partner with PEN Canada this year. This organization is a nonpartisan group that works for freedom of expression, opposing censorship, and advocating for writers and journalists around the world who have been threatened, detained, imprisoned, or killed for their views. As a result, we have adopted the Empty Chair campaign in affiliation with PEN Canada. The empty chair at our festival on opening night represents Nasrin Sotoudeh [NAZ-REEN SOH-TOO-DAY], a prominent Iranian human rights lawyer currently serving a 6-year prison sentence for her outspoken advocacy of clients arrested after the June 2009 presidential elections. She was arrested on September 4, 2010 after a summons to appear before a special court on charges of "propaganda against the state." With this support, we hope that one day freedom of speech will be a universal reality, something we once hoped for and attained.



FRIDAY October 12

8:00 pm

READING EVENT 1: Opening Night Gala

Zsuzsi Gartner, Susan Juby, Miranda Hill, John Burnside, Stella Leventoyannis Harvey, Margaret Macpherson, Alistair Macleod and Jack Whyte

Host: Charles Demers (comedian, humourist, and author).

Squamish Lil'Wat Cultural Centre Admission \$15

SATURDAY October 13

9:00 am - 10:30 am

WORKSHOP 1: Me, You, Her, Him: The Power of POV

With Zsuzsi Gartner

The Fairmont Chateau Whistler Admission: \$25

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10:00 am to 12 pm

WORKSHOP 2: Young Writers with Susan Juby

Limited to those under 19 years of age

Whistler Public Library Admission: Free

10:30 am – 11:00 am COFFEE BREAK

Refreshments available at the The Fairmont Chateau Whistler

11:00 am - 12:30 pm

WORKSHOP 3: Bringing The Outside In

With John Burnside and Mary MacDonald

The Fairmont Chateau Whistler

Admission: \$25

12:30 pm to 1:30 pm

LUNCH & PANEL DISCUSSION: Mountain Culture v.s.

Culture in the Mountains

With Feet Banks, Mike Berard, Margaret Macpherson and

Stephen Vogler. Moderator TBA.

The Fairmont Chateau Whistler

Admission: \$25 includes lunch

1:30 pm to 3:00 pm

WORKSHOP 4: Writing for Young Adults with Susan Juby

The Fairmont Chateau Whistler

Admission: \$25

3:00 pm to 3:30 pm **COFFEE BREAK**

Refreshments available at the The Fairmont Chateau Whistler

3:30 pm to 5:00 pm

WORKSHOP 5: Adventures in Adventure Writing

Leslie Anthony helps you navigate Creative Non-Fiction, Literary

Journalism, and other ill-defined terms.

The Fairmont Chateau Whistler

Admission: \$25

7:30 pm

READING EVENT 2: Wine, Books and Jazz

With guest authors hosted by Stephen Vogler

The Fairmont Chateau Whistler

Admission: \$20 includes a glass of wine, light appetizers and a

well-blended discussion over jazz!

SATURDAY October 13



SUNDAY October 14

10:30 am - Noon

READING EVENT 3: Muffin Break with local authors

Coffee and Muffins and a chat with some of our own scribes: Michel Beaudry, Katherine Fawcett, Sara Leach, Nancy Routley, Paula Shackelton, Leslie Anthony and Stephen Vogler.

The Fairmont Chateau Whistler

Admission: \$10

1:00 pm to 2:30 pm

PANEL DISCUSSION: Writing and film

Moderator: Leslie Anthony

Panel: Jordan Manly, Robin O'Neill, Nicolas Teichrob, Rebecca

Wood Barrett and Darcy Turenne.

The Fairmont Chateau Whistler

Admission: \$15

3:00 to 4:00 pm

WORKSHOP 6: Spore Prose

With Fungus Among Us Mushroom Festival stars Andy MacKinnon and Paul Kroeger

The Fairmont Chateau Whistler

Admission: \$10

8:00 pm

READING EVENT 4: Pecha Kucha

With special guests Jillian Christmas, and the boot thumping vocals and guitar melodies of singer Chelsea D. E. Johnson.

Maxx Fish

Admission: \$10 includes a drink



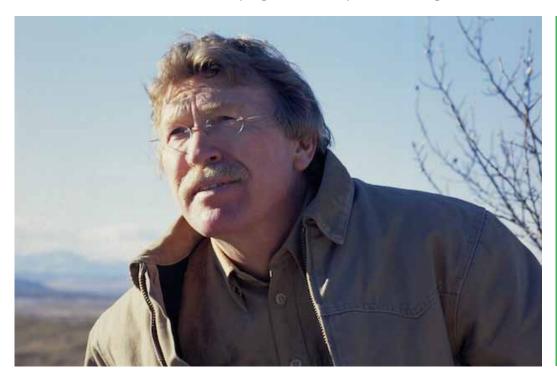


Fred Stenson will take up residence in Whistler this fall as the community's official Writer-in-Residence. Living in the Alta Lake Station House, Stenson will work with 10 writers on their own projects, starting on August 30th with a pot luck get together and introductory meeting.

Novice, emerging and experienced writers of all genres interested in taking part in the residency program need to register with Stella Harvey by sending an email (Stella25@ telus.net). Residency participants will receive four one-on-one sessions with Fred Stenson to develop their manuscript, and will also be able to attend weekly group lectures on various aspects of the craft of writing. Each participant will also receive Fred's book on writing, *Things Feigned and Imagined*. This is made possible through a Whistler Blackcomb Foundation grant.

Once accepted, writers must submit a short synopsis of the work they plan to work on during the residency, plus a manuscript of no more than 20 double spaced pages by Friday, August 12th to enable Fred to review the work in advance of the first meeting.

The residency forms the manuscript-intensive component of the Whistler Readers and Writers Festival. This program is made possible through a Canada Council for the Arts grant.





Session Descriptions IN DETAIL

READING EVENT 1 Opening Night Gala

Location Squamish Lil'Wat Cultural Center

Date/Time October 12, 2012 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm

Cost: \$15

Authors Zsuzsi Gartner, Susan Juby, Miranda Hill, Stella Leventoyannis Harvey, John Burnside, Margaret Macpherson, Alistair Macleod and Jack Whyte. Host: Charles Demers (comedian, humourist and author).

WORKSHOP 1 Me, You, Her, Him: The Power of POV With Zsuzsi Gartner

Location: The Fairmont Chateau Whistler

Date/Time: October 13, 2012 9:00 am to 10:30 am

Cost: \$25

Short fiction's possibilities are delightful, startling and seemingly endless. Of the vital mechanics of the form (including structure, time-frame and tense choices, narrative momentum, dialogue, character) the single most important choice you can make in writing short fiction is deciding on what point of view (or points of view) a story should be told from. Your POV choice (together with the more elusive quality of Voice) will dictate HOW you will write WHAT you want to write.

Beginning and emerging writers often adhere unconsciously to a particular POV -- what Zsuzsi Gartner calls the default mode (and we all have one). During this workshop you'll discover a multiplicity of POV choices and how a story can radically shift depending on who's doing the telling or through whose eyes we're witnessing things from. You'll be doing writing exercises, as well as reading your work out loud and discussing your writing with the class. Zsuzsi will provide a mini Course Pack that we'll be using for examples and inspiration and that you are welcome to take home with you. We'll also be looking at The Writer's Voice and why finding your own Voice as a writer is so important.

WORKSHOP 2 Workshop for young writers with Susan Juby

(limited to those under 19 years of age)

Location: Whistler Public Library

Date/Time: October 13, 2012 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Cost: Free

Learn to use your writerly wiles to lure readers in and never let them go! In this workshop, Susan Juby will give a brief reading from her new sci-fi-dypstopian-comedy mash-up and she will talk about the basic elements that go into creating a page turner, including character development, voice, plot, setting and scene building.

WORKSHOP 3 Bringing The Outside In with John Burnside and Mary MacDonald

Location: The Fairmont Chateau Whistler

Date/Time: October 13, 2012 11:00 am to 12:30 pm

Cost: \$25

Poetry is a search for new ways of saying things. Sometimes things which seem un-sayable. The outer landscape of the natural world can be a conduit to the inner world, enabling us to reach love, loss, sadness, joy, renewal, and memory. In this workshop we will have an opportunity to find these places of connection. It is always interesting to see what emerges. The workshop is geared towards all poets; novice and experienced. All that is required is the desire to reach for and claim the power and wonder of the natural world.

LUNCH & PANEL

DISCUSSION Mountain Culture v.s. Culture in the Mountains?

Location: The Fairmont Chateau Whistler

Date/Time: October 13, 2012 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm

Cost: \$25 includes lunch

Does mountain culture really exist or is it merely the glorification of mountain sports – endless powder porn ski flicks and rad mountain bike movies, or another tale of "finding oneself" in the solitude of the mountains? If a distinct mountain culture truly exists, is it the richness and authenticity in a mountain town's cultural stew, or the limiting factor that keeps its artists from creating works of greater depth and meaning?

Join us for a lively discussion with writers and thinkers from a broad variety of backgrounds, both in and away from the mountains. The question up for debate: Does mountain culture exist, and if so, does it matter to anybody outside of the mountain lifestyle? With Feet Banks, Mike Berard, Margaret Macpherson and Stephen Vogler. Moderator TBA.





SESSION DESCRIPTIONS On detail



WORKSHOP 4 Writing for Young Adults

with Susan Juby

Location: The Fairmont Chateau Whistler
Date/Time: October 13, 2012 1:30 to 3 pm

Cost: \$25

Young adult fiction is one of the fastest growing and most exciting areas in literature and it is currently undergoing a renaissance in both quantity and quality.

Find out why so many readers date their most powerful reading experiences back to the books they read as teenagers and why the teen years offer writers such fertile ground. In this workshop we will briefly survey the history of young adult literature, look at what YA books have in common, and talk about the challenges and opportunities faced by those who write for teens.

WORKSHOP 5 Adventures in Adventure Writing

Navigating Creative Non-fiction, Literary Journalism and other ill-defined terms with Leslie

Anthony

Location: The Fairmont Chateau Whistler
Date/Time: October 13, 2012 3:30 to 5 pm

Cost: \$25

Many folks—even non-writers—enjoy writing about their passions. These days, adventure is a particularly popular passion. As with travel, writing and reading about adventure is rooted in a desire to share your experiences and share in the experiences of others. We'll look at where mundane/mainstream ends and adventure begins in travel, action sports, recreation, and popular science. Discussion will navigate Creative Non-fiction, Literary Journalism and other ill-defined terms. There will be writing exercises, of course, and likely some things I haven't thought of yet... because it will be an adventure.



READING EVENT 2 Wine, Books and Jazz

Location: The Fairmont Chateau Whistler
Date/Time: October 13, 2012 7:30 pm

Cost: \$20 includes a glass or wine and light appetizers.

Enjoy some fine BC and international wines as authors Lawrence Hill, Miranda Hill, John Burnside, Jack Whyte, Susan Juby, Zsuzsi Gartner, Alistair Macleod and Margaret Macpherson discuss their favourite recent and long-cherished reads. Do reds go best with lengthy Russian novels? Is rosé strictly for summer reading? Does the brevity of poetry lend itself to the drinking of distilled spirits? The deep connection between wine and books may well be revealed by the end of this flowing discussion! Imbibers of fine beer and spirits will be welcomed into the fold.

As the conversation spills throughout the room, Vancouver's award-winning traditional jazz band the **New Orleans Ale Stars** will take the stage to heat up the dance floor with some swing-era jazz. A night not to be missed!

READING EVENT 3 Muffin Break with Local Authors

Location: The Fairmont Chateau Whistler
Date/Time: October 14, 2012 10:30 to Noon

Cost: \$10

Some of our very own local authors have published work this year or are up for awards for their work. Come enjoy a coffee and a chat with some of our own scribes: Michel Beaudry, Katherine Fawcett, Sara Leach, Nancy Routley, Paula Shackelton, Leslie Anthony and Stephen Vogler.

PANEL DISCUSSION Writing and Film. *Moderator: Leslie Anthony.*

Panel: Jordan Manly, Robin O'Neill, Nicolas Teichrob, Rebecca Wood Barrett and Darcy Turenne.

Location: The Fairmont Chateau Whistler

Date/Time: October 14, 2012 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm

Cost: \$15

For the first time the Whistler Readers and Writers Festival brings together a panel of filmmakers from a variety of different backgrounds to discuss how writing impacts the work they produce. Author and occasional filmmaker Leslie Anthony will be moderating what will undoubtedly be a lively and opinionated discussion on how they incorporate the written word in their work. Does writing take a prominent role, or is it an after thought to the visuals? How has their working process developed and evolved to what it is today? Have their backgrounds influenced the way they work with words? Panelists hail from a wide range of industries, from print writers to photographers, scriptwriters to webisode developers, ski athletes to fiction writers. Be part of the discussion and see how the future of filmmaking incorporates the written word and if you agree with our chosen panelists.

WORKSHOP 6 Spore Prose

with Fungus Among Us Mushroom Festival stars Andy MacKinnon and Paul Kroeger

Location: The Fairmont Chateau Whistler

Date/Time: October 15, 2012 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Cost: \$10

Join Fungus Among Us Mushroom Festival stars Andy MacKinnon and Paul Kroeger as they talk about their writing experiences, mushrooms, and the unlikely link between John Steinbeck and a mushroom book for the Queen Charlotte Islands. After their talk, these engaging speakers are happy to identify any strange mushrooms you may have picked up along the way.

READING EVENT 4 Pecha Kucha Night

Location: Maxx Fish

Date/Time: October 14, 2012 8:00 pm Cost: \$10 includes a drink

Drawing its name from the Japanese term for 'chit-chat', Pecha Kucha is a mix of show-and-tell, open mic night and happy hour. It has become the forum for ideas on design, architecture and a lot more and has swept the world in just four years, taking place in over 400 cities globally. For more information about Pecha Kucha Whistler visit www.pecha-kucha.org/night/whistler.

Special guest stars: Poet Jillian Christmas, with the boot thumping vocals and guitar melodies of singer Chelsea D. E. Johnson. Top that with savage accordion lines, heartbreaking harmonies and a few other tantalising secret ingredients and you've got yourself the remedy for whatever it is that ails you. Kicking off their third in a series of highly successful "HARD LOVE" tours, this duo is ready to bring their raucous affections to Whistler. Their sound is resonating and will fill you up in your most quiet of spaces while still leaving you wanting more.





LESLIE ANTHONY is a Whistler-based writer, editor, and filmmaker. Formerly Managing Editor at Powder magazine, Creative Director at Skier magazine, and Editor at award winning Peak Performance Journal, he currently resides on the masthead of numerous ski and outdoor magazines, and his writing appears annually in nine countries in seven languages. He also writes broadly about travel, adventure and science subjects ranging from imaginary monsters to fossil smuggling. He is the author of *Snakebit: Confessions of a Herpetologist* and *White Planet: A Mad Dash through Modern Global Ski Culture Wilderness*.

FEET BANKS, born in 1976, was raised in Northern BC without electricity and his first friend was a rooster named Houdini. At age 12 his parents moved him to Whistler to live the dream. He studied writing and film at the University of Victoria before returning home to continue living the dream while making stupid little horror movies with his friends. He is the founding editor of Mountain Life Magazine, the co-creator of the Heavy Hitting B-Grade HorrorFest and his "Notes from the Back Row" movie column in the Pique Newsmagazine has been running weekly since 2003. Feet loves naps, fishing, tropical vacations and drive-in movie theatres.









Leslie Anthony
Feet Banks
Michael Beaudry
Mike Berard

(Clockwise from top left)

MICHEL BEAUDRY has been spinning Whistler yarns since he first landed a job here as a dewy-faced ski pro in the early 1970's. Over the last thirty years, Beaudry has entertained readers around the world with his quirky, lyrical tales on all things edgy. His adventure-and-travel features have appeared in publications ranging from SKI, Powder, BIKE and Transworld Snowboarding to Men's Journal, GQ, Outside and Sports Illustrated. His stories and columns have been published in the US, France, Japan, Germany and Scandinavia. He was a perennial Western Canada Magazine Award winner in the late 1980's, and landed his first National Magazine citation for 1989's Vertical Dancer, the story of solo-climber Peter Croft. In 1997 he won the prestigious Harold Hirsch. Two years later, he received the inaugural Northern Lights Award for the best international travel story on Canada. He was honoured yet again in 2003, when he won the International Ski Historians Association's Ullr award for his book, Whistler – Against All Odds.

MIKE BERARD, originally hailing from Vancouver Island, B.C., is the Whistler-based editor of Coast Mountain Culture. Berard has worked as a writer for eight years, and has held the editorship at both SBC Skier Magazine and The Ski Journal. His work has been featured in The National Post, Bike, Powder, Avenue and Up! Magazine. He can be found in the Coast Mountain range, writing like he skis—slow yet surprisingly out of control. As a graduate and former instructor at Western Academy of Photography, Berard has the photographic experience to know that he is, first and foremost, a writer.

JOHN BURNSIDE is the author of eleven collections of poetry and five works of fiction. Burnside has achieved wide critical acclaim, winning the Whitbread Poetry Award in 2000 for The Asylum Dance which was also shortlisted for the Forward and T. S. Eliot prizes, and winning the 2011 T. S. Eliot Prize for Black Cat Bone. Born in Scotland, he moved away in 1965, returning to settle there in 1995. In the intervening period he worked as a factory hand, a labourer, a gardener and, for ten years, as a computer systems designer. He now lives in Fife with his wife and children and teaches Creative Writing, Literature and Ecology courses at the University of St Andrews.

John Burnside **Charles Demers Katherine Fawcett** Zsuzsi Gartner

(Clockwise from top left)









This lyrically driven, East-Van collaboration combines the succulent spoken word & writhing rhythms of poet **JILLIAN CHRISTMAS**, with the boot thumping vocals and guitar melodies of singer **CHELSEA D. E. JOHNSON**. Top that with savage accordion lines, heartbreaking harmonies and a few other tantalising secret ingredients and you've got yourself the remedy for whatever it is that ails you.

Kicking off their third, in a series of highly successful "HARD LOVE" tours, this duo is ready to bring their raucous affections home to Vancouver. Their sound is resonating and will fill you up in your most quiet of spaces, while still leaving you wanting for more.

CHARLES DEMERS is a comedian, humourist and author. In addition to having performed at the Just For Laughs festival and as a regular guest on CBC's The Debaters and This is That, he is the author of the books *The Prescription Errors* and *Vancouver Special*, the latter of which was shortlisted for the Hubert Evans BC Bookprize for Non-Fiction. He is a former co-host of The Citynews List, a nightly comedy television newspanel show, and has written and performed comedy for TV, stage, radio and web.

KATHERINE FAWCETT is a writer, musician, teacher, mother and the co-authour of *A Whistler Bear Story*. A proud member of The Vicious Circle, Fawcett's award-winning fiction and creative non-fiction has appeared in EVENT Magazine, SubTerrain, Readers' Digest, Other Voices, FreeFall and more. Montreal-born, Alberta-raised, Asian-influenced and Pemberton-dedicated, Fawcett is a yoga enthusiast and outdoor-lover who is currently finishing a collection of short stories.

ZSUZSI GARTNER is the author of the critically acclaimed and bestselling short fiction collection, *All the Anxious Girls on Earth* (Key Porter), the editor of BC Book-Prize nominee *Darwin's Bastards: Astounding Tales from Tomorrow* (D&M), the creative director of Vancouver Review's "Blueprint BC Fiction Series." Her stories have been widely published and anthologized, most recently in The Walrus, and Best Canadian Stories 2010 and 2011, and broadcast on CBC and NPR. Zsuzsi has won numerous awards for magazine journalism, as well as a 2007 National Magazine Award for Fiction. She grew up in Calgary and lives in Vancouver. Her latest book,











Lawrence Hill Miranda Hill Susan Juby Paul Kroeger

(Clockwise from top left)

Better Living Through Plastic Explosives (Hamish Hamilton/Penguin Canada) was shortlisted for the prestigious 2011 Scotiabank Giller Prize.

LAWRENCE HILL is the author of seven books, including *Any Known Blood* and *Black Berry, Sweet Juice: On Being* Black and White in Canada. His novel The Book of Negroes became a national bestseller, was published around the world and won numerous awards, including Canada Reads, the Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize and the Commonwealth Writers' Prize.

Lawrence has travelled to Niger, Cameroon and Mali as a volunteer with Crossroads International, a nonprofit organization which he continues to support as an honorary patron. He also actively supports the Black Loyalist Heritage Society, and Book Clubs for Inmates. He is currently completing a new novel and co-writing the film adaptation of The Book of Negroes. His most recent short story, "Meet You at the Door" appeared last year in The Walrus magazine and was nominated for a National Magazine Award. Visit Lawrence Hill at www.lawrencehill.com

MIRANDA HILL'S writing has been published by The New Quarterly, The Dalhousie Review and The Fiddlehead. She received her BA in drama from Queen's University, and her MFA in Creative Writing from the University of British Columbia. Hill has worked in television and as a freelance writer and communications consultant. She is the founder and executive director of Project Bookmark Canada. She lives in Hamilton with her husband Lawrence Hill. Sleeping Funny is her first book of fiction.

SUSAN JUBY'S novels have been published all over the world and nominated for many awards, including the Amazon/Books in Canada First Novel Award and the Stephen Leacock Award for Humour, an Arthur Ellis Award by the Crime Writers of Canada and for an Edgar Award by the Mystery Writers of America. She is the author of the bestselling Alice MacLeod trilogy, which was adapted into a television series called Alice, I Think that aired on CTV and the Comedy Network. Her memoir, Nice Recovery (Viking), was a Globe and Mail Top 100 Book for 2010. Her latest novel, The Woefield Poultry Collective has been nominated for a Leacock Award and for the CLA Young Adult Book award for 2012. Her upcoming book, Bright's Light, which will be released

Sara Leach Stella Harvey Mary MacDonald Alistair MacLeod

(Clockwise from top left)









in August 2012, is that rarest of things: a comic dystopian novel. Susan was raised in Smithers, BC and teaches creative writing at Vancouver Island University and at U.B.C. She lives with her husband in Nanaimo, B.C.

PAUL KROEGER is a founding member and vice-president of the Vancouver Mycological Society, and a major contributor to the UBC fungus research collections. Paul has just published *The Outer Spores: Mushrooms of Haida Gwaii* and his presentation will include a discussion of the unlikely link between John Steinbeck and a mushroom book for the Queen Charlotte Islands. The Outer Shores was a book project by Steinbeck and marine biologist Ed Ricketts on exposed coast fauna, but Ricketts was killed just before they were to travel to the Charlottes to do the fieldwork. Paul will discuss the Ricketts-Steinbeck connection with BC, and describe the process that he went through as a new writer to make a mushroom book.

SARA LEACH is a local author and teacher-librarian. Her books for children include *Count Me In*, nominated for the 2012/13 Red Cedar Book Award, and *Sounds of the Ferry*, nominated for the 2012/13 Chocolate Lily Book Award. Sara has been a regular attendee and presenter at the Whistler Readers and Writers Festival for many years. She loves to talk about the writing and publishing process with anyone who is willing to listen.

STELLA LEVENTOYANNIS HARVEY is a fiction writer whose short stories have appeared in The Literary Leanings Anthology, The New Orphic Review, Emerge Magazine and The Dalhousie Review. Her non-fiction has appeared in Pique Newsmagazine, The Question and the Globe and Mail. *Nicolai's Daughters* is her first published novel. Stella was born in Cairo, Egypt and moved to Calgary as a child with her family. She currently lives with her husband in Whistler, but visits her many relatives in Greece often, indulging her love of Greek food and culture and honing her fluency in the language. In 2001, Stella founded the Whistler Writers Group, also known as the Vicious Circle, which each year produces the Whistler Writers Festival under her direction.











MARY MACDONALD is a poet, writer, and child psychologist, living a sometimes wildly incompatible life, in Whistler and Vancouver, B.C. "I really believe we are more than one thing - one idea, one passion, one talent - and have a great fondness for pairing poetry with all forms of art." She thrives on collaboration and has written poetry for opera, ballet and public art.

ANDY MACKINNON is a professional forester and professional biologist from Metchosin BC, and an Adjunct Professor in the School of Resource and Environmental Management at Simon Fraser University. Andy is coauthor of a number of field guides for plant identification for western North America, and of the upcoming book "Alpine Plants of the Northwest" with long-time collaborator Jim Pojar. He considers writing plant and lichen guidebooks to be a fun challenge to produce books that are useful and entertaining to read, without sacrificing technical accuracy. Andy also believes it's important to include at least one sasquatch tale in each book.

ALISTAIR MACLEOD is recognized as one of Canada's most distinguished writers. His acclaimed short stories are collected in the volume, Island, and his novel, No Great Mischief, won several awards, including the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award. He taught creative writing at the University of Indiana and is a professor emeritus at the University of Windsor. MacLeod was raised in Cape Breton and still spends his summers there. He has been commissioned by the Writers Festival to write a short story in honour of our 25th anniversary; chapbooks will be available for purchase during the festival.

MARGARET MACPHERSON is a writer and teacher who grew up in Yellowknife, NWT. She holds a MFA in Creative Writing from UBC and has worked as an essayist and journalist in Halifax, Bermuda and Vancouver. She is a published poet and the author of four non-fiction books including the award-winning Nellie McClung: Voice for the Voiceless. Margaret's first short story collection, Perilous Departures, and her first novel, Released, were both nominated for Manitoba's Mary Scorer Best Book by a Manitoba Publisher award. Body Trade, her most recent novel, has recently won the NorthWords Prize.

Nancy Routley Paula Shackleton Fred Stenson Nicolas Teichrob

(Clockwise from top left)









JORDAN MANLY is a Vancouver-based, Whistler Blackcomb-inspired, all-around photographic phenomenon. Jordan Manley has recently taken the ski and mountain bike world by storm with histechnically-perfect images of moody, deep powder days and foggy North Shore trail riding. His images are a reflection of his passion: moving through the mountains, exploring the natural and social world. He is interested in making photographs that deliver a fresh perspective, but he's equally a fan of simple documentary photography. Through either method, his concern is to tell stories about the people who live and work in the mountains.

ROBIN O'NEILL is a Canadian commercial lifestyle and documentary photographer. Based in Whistler, this adventurer, athlete and keen observer uses her camera to explore the human condition at work and play. Robin's command of story and knack for documentary allow her to create compelling visual vignettes that showcase fascinating characters, dynamic environments, and a range of products. She has shot campaigns for clients including Bell Canada, Whistler Mountain Bike Park, Lululemon Athletica, and the Four Seasons.

The reason 90% of all diets fail is compulsive overeating is an addiction, just like any other addiction. The similarities between alcohol, drug and all other addictions to compulsive overeating are just too great to ignore. Armed with this knowledge **NANCY ROUTLEY**, a psychotherapist with extensive addiction experience, wrote 'Soothing the Beast Within – A Loving Path to End Food Addiction' to help herself and others with their addiction. Food is the drug of choice.

"From the sublime to the unusual," that's how author **PAULA SHACKLETON** describes life and work these days. This Whistler local enjoys three seasons of mountain culture and activities and with summers spent at the family farm in the Interior of BC. That's the sublime. The unusual part comes with book commissions that take her to countries not typically on the Lonely Planet travel guide rack. Her first published book was about the Democratic Republic of Congo's mineral rich region, Katanga. Her latest is a large-format coffee-table book titled, *MAURITANIA*, the West African country where she traveled April and May of last year that enabled her to meet with President Aziz, camp in the Sahara, examine 500-year-old manuscripts in a Medieval town

Continued on next page











Darcy Turenne Stephen Vogler Jack Whyte Rebecca Wood Barrett

(Clockwise from top left)

library, see molten gold poured into a bar weighing 36.2 kilograms, and watch the temperature dial on the car dash reach 56 degrees celsius. "What I love about making these books is the opportunity to access places, people and cultures that I'd otherwise never get the opportunity to experience," says Shackleton. Paula blogs about literary stuff on www.bookbuffet.com and she's the founder and director of Whistler Reads.

FRED STENSON is a Canadian writer of historical fiction and non-fiction relating to the Canadian West. In addition to his published work, Stenson has been a faculty member at The Banff Centre, where he has directed the Wired Writing Studio for eleven years. He is also a documentary film writer, with over 140 credits. He writes a regular wit column for Alberta Views Magazine. His 2000 novel *The Trade* was shortlisted for Canada's Giller Prize. Both The Trade and his 2003 novel *Lightning* won the Grant MacEwan Author's Prize for best Alberta book of the year. His 2008 novel, The *Great Karoo* was nominated for the 2008 Governor General's Literary Award in Fiction and was a nominee for the 2009 Commonwealth Writers Prize for Best Book (Canada/Caribbean). Stenson was raised on a farm and cattle ranch in the Waterton region of southwest Alberta. He is married to the poet Pamela Banting and lives in Cochrane, Alberta.

NICOLAS TEICHROB is an award-winning photographer and filmmaker currently residing in the creative hub of Roberts Creek, British Columbia, Canada. His unique eye has garnered numerous accolades while his photos have been published internationally in skiing, biking, and surfing media outlets. Nicolas draws his inspiration from the natural world and the beautiful moments in time that are everywhere. Holding a Master of Science degree in Geography, his eye is drawn to capture the natural processes that occur all around us on varying timescales. Throughout his travels chasing waves, powder, trails, or simply a relaxed state of being, Nicolas continues to create unique and inspiring imagery with each new adventure.

DARCY TURENNE is a professional mountain biker and filmmaker from Vancouver Island, Canada. Known internationally for her athletics, Darcy started working in television as a presenter and has been featured in hundreds of publications worldwide, including Rolling Stone and Men's Journal. While recently completing her MA in Intercultural Communications at Royal Roads University, Darcy released her documentary thesis, "The Eighth Parallel" -- a film based around five Indonesian female extreme-sport athletes who defy tradition social constructs through their involvement in sport.





STEPHEN VOGLER is the author of *Only in Whistler: Tales of a Mountain Town* and *Top of the Pass: Whistler and the Sea-to-Sky Country*, both published by Harbour Publishing. He has written radio documentaries and commentaries for CBC Radio's Ideas, DNTO and Outfront programs, and contributed to Explore Magazine, The Globe and Mail, and Vancouver's Georgia Straight among other publications. Stephen hosts Creative 5 Eclectic, a monthly arts open mic night, and is the founder of The Point Artist-Run Centre in Whistler. www. stephenvogler.com

JACK WHYTE was born and raised in Scotland and emigrated to Canada in 1967. He is an actor, orator, singer, and poet, and was awarded an honorary doctor of letters for his contribution to Canadian popular fiction. He is the author of the *Dream of Eagles* series (eight Arthurian novels set in Roman Britain) and the *Templar Trilogy* (featuring the legendary Knights Templar). Whyte's novels are also published in the United States, the U.K., Australia, New Zealand, Germany, France, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Italy, Brazil, and Russia. He lives in Kelowna, British Columbia.

REBECCA WOOD BARRETT (BAA Film, MFA Creative Writing) has made over 25 short films, which have aired on television and screened at festivals around the world. Her shorts *First to Go Down* and *Bear Essentials* screened at the Whistler Film Festival, and she is a three time finalist of the TWSSF's 72 Hour Filmmaker Showdown. In 2012 her film Rush, a comedy about ski-ballet, won the Audience Choice award. For the last nine years, Rebecca has been a multi-media writer/producer/director with RTOWN communications.



azz

Simon Stribling trumpet, reeds, vocals

Evan Arntzen clarinet, sax, vocals

Georgia Korba bass, vocals

Josh Roberts banjo, guitar

Lauri Lyster drums, vocals

plus

Bob Williams trombone, vocals

The New Orleans Ale Stars

The New Orleans Ale Stars started brewing back in November of 2004. Simon Stribling, fearless leader and multi-instrumentalist, was looking for an outlet for his boundless energy, musical enthusiasm and consummate knowledge of traditional jazz. He wanted a band of fine players whose hearts were really in the music, and who knew how to have fun! His friend Gerry Green, long time reedman in the Grand Dominion Jazz Band, was an easy first choice. Georgia Korba on bass and Josh Roberts on banjo and guitar were a couple of wonderful local rhythm players who were experienced in the music well beyond their years. Karl Watt on drums rounded out the original line-up, and the Ale Stars hit the city of Vancouver, Canada with a vengeance!

While the original vision was to play straight ahead in the New Orleans tradition, the band couldn't help but pay tribute to the many masters in the field...Jimmy Noone, Duke Ellington and Simon's hero Louis Armstrong are all represented in the band's repertoire. Add to that the occasional bop tune and a fine smattering of Australian jazz tunes and you have the sound of the Ale Stars. So if you are ever lucky enough to catch these cats playing live ANYWHERE, grab yourself an ale and get ready to have yourself an exceptionally good time, New Orleans Ale Stars style!





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CHATEAU WHISTLER

Our event partner, The Fairmont Chateau Whistler has a special rate for this event. For reservations, contact the The Fairmont Chateau Whistler quoting the Whistler Readers and Writers Festival for the weekend of October 12- 14, 2012.

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