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Co-Publishers: Jay and Hazel Millar

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Essais Series Editor: Julie Joosten

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Web Media Manager: John Schmidt

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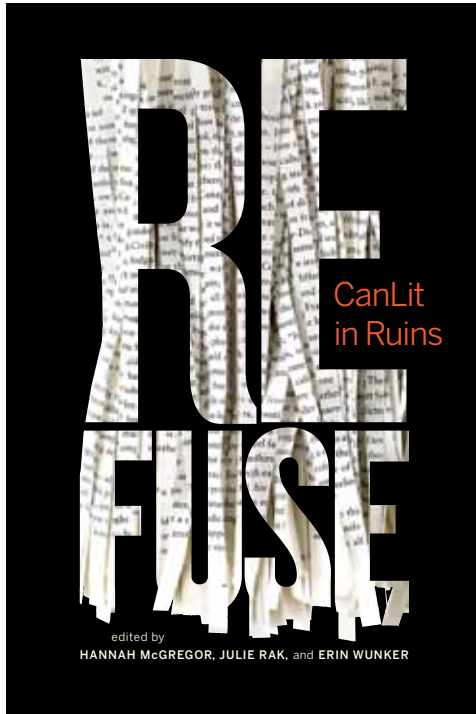


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Catalogue cover by Gareth Lind / Lind Design

Book*hug acknowledges the land on which it operates. For thousands of years it has been the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and most recently, the Mississaugas of the Credit River. Today, this meeting place is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island, and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land.

FRONTLIST NONFICTION



Refuse: CanLit in Ruins

Edited by Hannah McGregor, Julie Rak & Erin Wunker

CanLit—the commonly used short form for English Canadian Literature as a cultural formation and industry—has been at the heart of several recent public controversies. Why? Because CanLit is breaking open to reveal the accepted injustices at its heart. It is imperative that these public controversies and the issues that sparked them be subject to careful and thorough discussion and critique.

Refuse: CanLit in Ruins provides a critical and historical context to help readers understand conversations happening about CanLit presently. One of its goals is to foreground the perspectives of those who have been changing the conversation about what CanLit is and what it could be. Topics such as literary celebrity, white power, appropriation, class, rape culture, and the ongoing impact of settler colonialism are addressed by a diverse gathering of writers from across Canada. This volume works to avoid a single metanarrative response to these issues, but rather brings together a cacophonous and ruinous multitude of voices.

Essais No. 6

15 November 2018 | Nonfiction / Essays

9x6 inches | 280 pages

Trade Paper: 9781771664318 \$25.00

McGregor Hometown: Vancouver, BC

Rak Hometown: Edmonton, AB

Wunker Hometown: Halifax, NS

Hannah McGregor is an Assistant Professor of Publishing at Simon Fraser University, a feminist podcaster, and a CanLit killjoy. She co-hosts the popular Harry Potter podcast *Witch, Please*, and hosts the slightly-less-popular podcast *Secret Feminist Agenda*, a weekly discussion of the insidious, nefarious, insurgent, and mundane ways we enact our feminism in our daily lives. She lives in Vancouver on the territory of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh, and has two cats; one is named after a poet, and the other is named after a breakfast.

Julie Rak is a Professor in the Department of English and Film Studies at the University of Alberta. She holds an Eccles Fellowship at the British Library for 2017-2018 and is also a Killam Professor at the University of Alberta for 2017-28. Julie was born on traditional Haudenosaunee territory in New York State, and grew up in Delmar, NY, the traditional territory of the Kanien'kehaken (Mohawk). She currently lives and works on Treaty 6 and Metis territory in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

Erin Wunker is a teacher and a writer. She teaches courses in Canadian literature and cultural production. She is the author of the multiple award-winning book *Notes from a Feminist Killjoy*. She lives and works in K'ijipuktuk/Halifax.

FRONTLIST FICTION



We All Need To Eat

Alex Leslie

We All Need to Eat, is a new collection of linked stories from award-winning author Alex Leslie that revolve around Soma, a young Queer woman in Vancouver, chronicling her attempts to come to grips with herself, her family and her sexuality.

Set in different moments falling between Soma's childhood and her late thirties, each story—bold and varying in its approach to narrative—presents a sea change in Soma's life, from Soma becoming addicted to weightlifting while going through a break-up in her thirties; to her complex relationship with her younger brother after she leaves home revealed over the course of a long family chicken dinner; to Soma's struggles to cope with her mother's increasing instability by becoming fixated on buying her a lamp for seasonal affective disorder; and the far-reaching impact and lasting reverberations of Soma's family's experience of the Holocaust as it scrapes up against the rise of Alt Right media. Lyrical, gritty and atmospheric, Soma's stories refuse to shy away from the contradictions inherent to human experience, exploring one young person's journey through mourning, escapism, and the search for nourishment.

Praise for Alex Leslie:

"Alex Leslie's prose surges along on enigmatic imagery, rich phrasing, a mild surreal quality."

—*The Globe and Mail*

"With assured debuts in two genres, Alex Leslie melds remarkable acuity of vision with a refreshing eagerness for formal experimentation. She's at once a writer's writer and an accomplished teller of tales." —Dayne Ogilvie Prize Jury Citation, The Writers' Trust of Canada

1 October 2018 | Fiction / Short Stories
8x5.25 inches | 220 pages
Trade Paper: 9781771664196 \$20.00
Author Hometown: Vancouver, BC



PHOTO: LORRAINE WEIR

Alex Leslie was born and lives in Vancouver. She is the author of the short story collection *People Who Disappear* (2012) which was nominated for the 2013 Lambda Literary Award for Debut Fiction and a 2013 ReLit Award, as well as a collection of prose poems, *The things I heard about you* (2014), which was shortlisted for the 2014 Robert Kroestch Award for Innovative Poetry. Winner of the 2015 Dayne Ogilvie Prize for LGBT Emerging Writers, Alex's short fiction has been included in the *Journey Prize Anthology*, *The Best of Canadian Poetry in English*, and in a special issue of *Granta* spotlighting Canadian writing, co-edited by Madeleine Thien and Catherine Leroux.

FRONTLIST POETRY



Holy Wild

Gwen Benaway

In her third collection of poetry, *Holy Wild*, Gwen Benaway explores the complexities of being an Indigenous trans woman in expansive lyric poems. She holds up the Indigenous trans body as a site of struggle, liberation, and beauty. A confessional poet, Benaway narrates her sexual and romantic intimacies with partners as well as her work to navigate the daily burden of transphobia and violence. She examines the intersections of Indigenous and trans experience through autobiographical poems and continues to speak to the legacy of abuse, violence, and colonial erasure that defines Canada. Her sparse lines, interwoven with English and Anishinaabemowin (Ojibwe), illustrate the wonder and power of Indigenous trans womanhood in motion. *Holy Wild* is not an easy book, as Benaway refuses to give any simple answers, but it is a profoundly vibrant and beautiful work filled with a transcendent grace.

Praise for Gwen Benaway:

“Through grief, loss, exile, and absence, Benaway asserts that there is no right way to hold hurt—though there are quite brilliant, evocative ways to write about it.”
—*This Magazine*

“With a gaze that is frankly astonishing in its clarity, Benaway holds up fragments of her life story, transforming autobiography into powerful testament to women who have been marked by violence, grief, and survival.”
—*Autostraddle*

1 September 2018 | Poetry
7.75x5.25 inches | 96 pages
Trade Paper: 9781771664394 \$18.00
Author Hometown: Toronto, ON

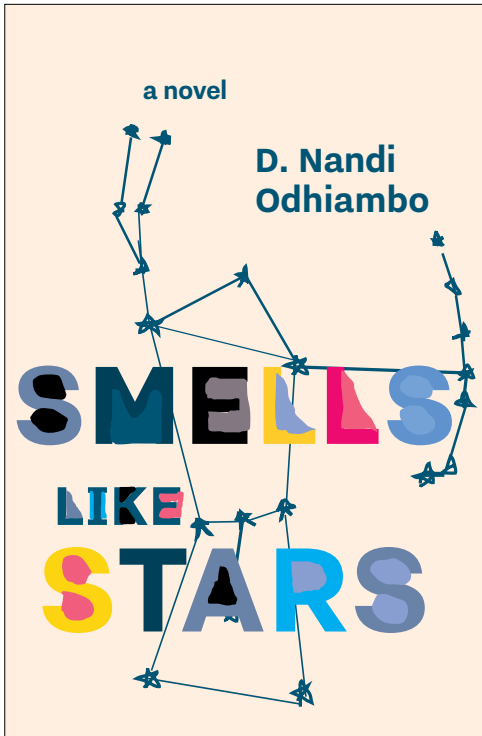


PHOTO: JON ELLIOT

Gwen Benaway is of Anishinaabe and Métis descent. She has published two collections of poetry, *Ceremonies for the Dead* and *Passage*. A Two-Spirited Trans poet, she has been described as the spiritual love child of Tomson Highway and Anne Sexton. She has received many distinctions and awards, including the Dayne Ogilvie Honour of Distinction for Emerging Queer Authors from the Writer's Trust of Canada. Her poetry and essays have been published in national publications and anthologies, including *The Globe and Mail*, *Maclean's Magazine*, *CBC Arts*, and many others. She was born in Wingham, Ontario and currently resides in Toronto, Ontario.

FICTION

COVER NOT FINAL



Smells Like Stars

D. Nandi Odhiambo

Kerstin Ostheim, a journalist, and P. J. Banner, a freelance photographer, have been together six months after meeting on a dating website. They are getting married in two weeks and as the wedding fast approaches, they question their compatibility while investigating mysterious horse killings that are taking place in Ogweyo's Cove, the Hawaiin tourist haven where they live.

In the meantime, Schuld Ostheim, Kerstin's transgender daughter from her first marriage, is preparing for an art exhibit after being hospitalized for a physical assault while her boyfriend, Woloff, an Olympic medalist in the 1500m, comes to terms with a career ending knee injury. As Kerstin and P.J. get closer to the truth about the dead horses, they also begin to more clearly see each other. Simultaneously, Schuld and Woloff encounter obstacles caused by how their relationships with the past effect their sense of a possible future.

Ultimately, *Smells Like Stars* draws attention to what is hidden in plain sight, that life can be cruel, ambiguous and without meaning.

Praise for D. Nandi Odhiambo:

"Odhiambo is masterful at describing the pulls and pushes of a young man's coming of age in an unfamiliar world that he must make his own."

—*Kirkus Reviews*

"A fresh, honest voice poised at the convergence of several cultural influences."

—*Quill and Quire*

8 October 2018 | Fction
8x5.25 inches | 220 pages
Trade Paper: 9781771664233 \$20.00
Author Hometown: Haleiwa, HI / Waterloo, ON



PHOTO: CARMEN NOLTE-ODHIAMBO

D. Nandi Odhiambo is the author of three novels: *dissled banded nations* (1998), *Kipligat's Chance* (2003) and *The Reverend's Apprentice* (2008). Originally from Nairobi Kenya, Nandi moved to Winnipeg, Manitoba in the 1970s. He has an MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and a PhD in English from the University of Hawai'i, Manoa. Currently Nandi lives in O'ahu, Hawai'i, with his wife Carmen and two dogs, where he works as an Assistant Professor of English at the University of Hawai'i, West O'ahu.

FICTION

COVER NOT FINAL



The Faerie Devouring

Catherine Lalonde

Translated by Oana Avasilichioaei

A modern-day fable and mythic bildungsroman, *The Faerie Devouring* tells the story of a young girl raised by her grandmother (a stalwart matriarch and wicked fairy godmother) following her mother's death during childbirth. The absent mother haunts the story of this girl whose greatest misfortune is to have been born female.

In this critically-acclaimed coming-of-age story by Quebecois author Catherine Lalonde, and translated by Oana Avasilichioaei, questions of what it means to be born female and grow into a woman are explored. The story is rife with song, myth, phantasmagoria, spells, desire, ferocious poetic telling, wild imagination, and unruly language. Lalonde uses the form of a disenchanted and metaphorical fable to recount what it means to find a life force in one's lineage, even when one is born into "nothing."

LITERATURE IN TRANSLATION SERIES

1 November 2018 | Fiction / Translation

8x5.25 inches | 144 pages

Trade Paper: 9781771664271 \$20.00

Author Hometown: Montreal, QC

Translator Hometown: Montreal, QC

PHOTO: © LE QUARTANIER / JUSTINE LATOUR

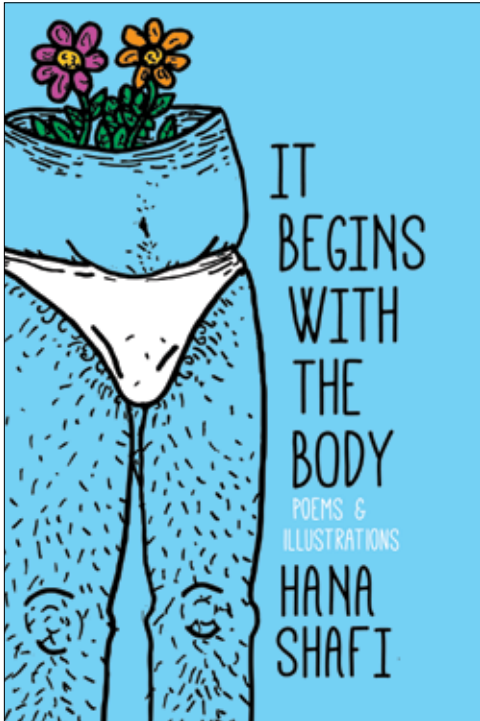


PHOTO: PAM DICK

Catherine Lalonde lives in Montreal. Her publications include *Cassandre* (2005), and *Corps étranger* (2008, winner of the Émile-Nelligan Award) and *Le dévoration des fées* (2017). She works as a journalist for the Montreal daily *Le Devoir*.

Montreal-based writer, translator, and editor Oana Avasilichioaei has published five poetry collections, including *Expeditions of a Chimaera* (with Erin Moure; 2009), *We, Beasts* (2012; winner of the A.M. Klein Prize for Poetry from the Quebec Writers' Federation) and *Liminal* (2015). Previous translations include Bertrand Lavendure's *Universal Bureau of Copyrights* (2014; shortlisted for the 2015 ReLit Awards), Suzanne Leblanc's *The Thought House of Philippa* (co-translated with Ingrid Pam Dick; 2015), and Daniel Canty's *Wigrum* (2013). Her translation of Bertrand Lavendure's *Readopolis* won the 2017 Governor General's Literary Award for Translation.

POETRY



9 October 2018 | Poetry / Illustration
8x6 inches | 96 pages
Trade Paper: 9781771664431 \$18.00
Author Hometown: Toronto, ON

It Begins With The Body

Hana Shafi

It Begins With The Body by Hana Shafi explores the milestones and hurdles of a brown girl coming into her own. Shafi's poems display a raw and frank intimacy and address anxiety, unemployment, heartbreak, relationships, identity, and faith.

Accompanied by Shafi's candid illustrations that share the same delightful mixture of grotesque and humour found in her poems, *It Begins With The Body* navigates the highs and lows of youth. It is about feeling like an outsider, and reconciling with pain and awkwardness. It's about arguing with your mum about wanting to wax off your unibrow to the first time you threw up in a bar in your twenties, and everything in between. Funny and raw, personal and honest, Shafi's exciting debut is about finding the right words you wished you had found when you needed them the most.

Praise for *It Begins With The Body*:

"Hana Shafi's work is a sigh of relief for the queer Muslim brown kid I was, and the queer Muslim brown adult I know am. It's the act of visibility, of being seen through the words on a page that are so life affirming. I feel grateful that I'm of a time where art like this is being made. It's relatable, it's a delight."

—Fariha Róisín, co-host of *Two Brown Girls*, a podcast

"This book is the anthem of my youth."

—Alysha Brilla, Juno Award nominated musician and songwriter



PHOTO: DYLAN VAN DEN BERGE

Hana Shafi is a writer and artist who illustrates under the name Frizz Kid. Both her visual art and writing frequently explore themes such as feminism, body politics, racism, and pop culture with an affinity to horror. A graduate of Ryerson University's Journalism Program, she has published articles in publications such as *The Walrus*, *Hazlitt*, *This Magazine*, *Torontoist*, *Huffington Post*, and has been featured on *Buzzfeed India*, *Buzzfeed Canada*, *CBC*, *Flare Magazine*, *Mashable*, and *Shameless*. Known on Instagram for her weekly affirmation series, she is also the recipient of the Women Who Inspire Award, from the Canadian Council for Muslim Women. Born in Dubai, Shafi's family immigrated to Mississauga, Ontario in 1996, and she currently lives and works in Toronto. *It Begins With The Body* is her first book.

POETRY



Ledi

Kim Trainor

Ledi, the second book by Vancouver poet Kim Trainor, describes the excavation of an Iron Age Pazyryk woman from her ice-bound grave in the steppes of Siberia. Along with the woman's carefully preserved body, with its blue tattoos of leopards and griffins, grave goods were also discovered—rosehips and wild garlic, translucent vessels carved from horn, snow-white felt stockings and coriander seeds for burning at death. The archaeologist who discovered her, Natalya Polosmak, called her 'Ledi'—'the Lady'—and it was speculated that she may have held a ceremonial position such as story teller or shaman within her tribe.

Trainor uses this burial site to undertake the emotional excavation of the death of a former lover by suicide. This book-length poem presents a compelling story in the form of an archaeologist's notebook, a collage of journal entries, spare lyric poems, inventories, and images. As the poem relates the discovery of Ledi's gravesite, the narrator attempts simultaneously to reconstruct her own past relationship and the body of her lover.

Praise for Kim Trainor:

"Trainor has done a superb job of producing poetry that stretches language just thin enough to clothe the human form across millennia."

—*Journal of Canadian Poetry*

"Trainor's voice tenderly urgent, whether singing in spare lyric, or in the plain-spokenness of prose."

—*Arc Poetry Magazine*

10 October 2018 | Poetry / Illustration
7.75x5.25 inches | 104 pages
Trade Paper: 9781771664479 \$18.00
Author Hometown: Vancouver, BC

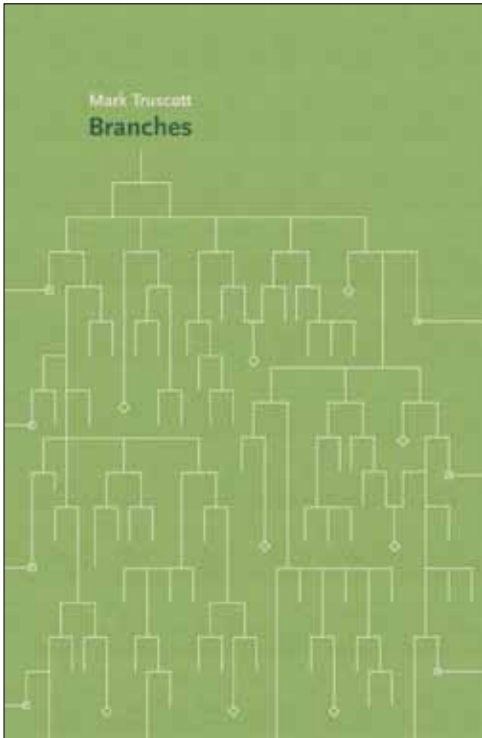


PHOTO: KIM TRAINOR

Kim Trainor's first poetry collection, *Karyotype*, was published by Brick Books in 2015. Her poetry has won the Gustafson Prize and the *Malahat Review's* Long Poem Prize, and has appeared in the 2013 *Global Poetry Anthology* and *The Best Canadian Poetry in English 2014*. She lives in East Vancouver.

POETRY

COVER NOT FINAL



Branches

Mark Truscott

Branches, Mark Truscott's third collection of poetry gathers a series of lyric contemplations that revel in poetry's great task: to present thinking in language.

Careful attention reveals that, even in our least significant seeming moments, our minds are constantly navigating disjunctions among registers of experience. Our intellect silently reminds our eyes that the car that appears to be moving between leaves is actually behind them and much larger. The sound of the vacuum cleaner in the next room is noise to be ignored, because we are focused on what's beyond the window. The phrase that arises in our mind belongs to a conversation earlier in the day, not what we are now focused on. Clear thinking demands that these navigations remain unconscious. But what if they're meaningful, or productive, in themselves? What if they're necessary to help us find our true place in the world? *Branches* explores these questions.

Praise for Mark Truscott:

"I want to read more poems from Truscott. No, I want to read a whole new book, because it is a rare find, a whole book that one wants to hold on to, and this is one that I do. Want. To hold on. To."

—*Lemon Hound*

21 September 2018 | Poetry
7.75x5.25 inches | 72 pages
Trade Paper: 9781771664516 \$18.00
Author Hometown: Toronto, ON



PHOTO: LISA HEGGUM

Mark Truscott is the author of two previous books of poetry: *Said Like Reeds or Things* (2004) and *Nature* (2010), which was shortlisted for the ReLit Award for Poetry. Poems from *Branches* have appeared in *Event*, *The Walrus* and on the Cultural Society website (culturalsociety.org). Truscott was born in Bloomington, Indiana, and grew up in Burlington. He lives in Toronto.

POETRY

The Ritualites

Michael Nardone

The Ritualites is Michael Nardone's book-length poem on the sonic topography of North America.

Composed over ten years at sites all across the continent—from Far Rockaway to the Olympic Peninsula, Great Bear Lake to the Gulf of California—the book documents the poet's listening amid our public exchanges, mediated ambiances, and itinerant intimacies. *The Ritualites* is a series of linguistic rituals that shift, page to page, through a range of forms and genres—a rhapsodic text for occasional singing and a best-selling thriller, a self-help guide and sabotage manual, a score for solo performance and a cacophony of voices.

Praise for Michael Nardone:

"A good prose poet is always all ears. There's an understanding in Nardone's poems of the way said and unsaid start and stop each other, how there's always something heard plus something pulling what you hear."

—Emma Healey, author of *Stereoblind*

"*The Ritualites* is a spellbinding collection of North America's sonic architecture and Nardone is a poet of its topologies, listening to the air when the body stops. *The Ritualites* is the jukebox of place; embodied leakages of the night, the shout, the cry and the laughter. A poetics of what language lays bare: little panic breaths, sound permitted in a cell. In *The Ritualites*, Nardone reminds us that language is wielded and listening is a verb."

—Jordan Scott, author of *Blert* and *Night & Ox*

26 October 2018 | Poetry
9x6 inches | 120 pages
Trade Paper: 9781771664554 \$20.00
Author Hometown: Montreal, QC



PHOTO: RICHMOND LAM

Michael Nardone is a writer and editor based in Montreal. He is the author of the chapbooks *Airport Novel* (2015), *Transaction Record* (2014), *O. Cyrus & the Bardo* (2012), and *Us, People* (2011). His poetry has won the Lemon Hound Prose Poem Prize and was a finalist for the Robert Kroetsch Award for Innovative Poetry. His essays, dialogues, and editorial projects have been published widely, and are archived at <http://soundobject.net>. *The Ritualites* is his first book.

POETRY



The Lost Cosmonauts

Ken Hunt

Fraught with fatal mishaps and disastrous near misses, the missions of the space race between the Soviet Union and the United States defined an era and exemplified the global socio-political conflict of the Cold War. *The Lost Cosmonauts* by Ken Hunt is an elegy to humanity's fledgling efforts to explore outer space, and to those who lost their lives in pursuit of this goal.

This wide-ranging collection of poems looks deep into the largely unexplored cosmos for experiences of the sublime, not only in celestial bodies and mythical figures among the stars, but also in those astronauts and cosmonauts who dared to explore them.

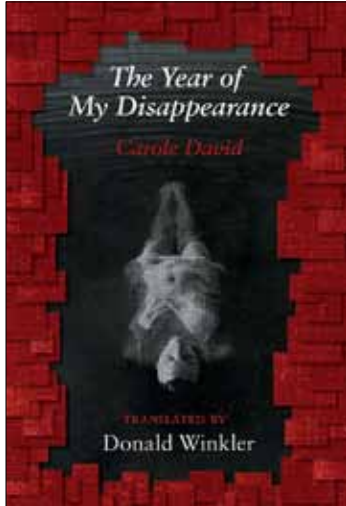
2 November 2018 | Poetry
9x6 inches | 120 pages
Trade Paper: 9781771664592 \$18.00
Author Hometown: Calgary, AB



PHOTO: KEN HUNT

Ken Hunt's writing has appeared in *Chromium Dioxide*, *No Press*, *Matrix* and *Freefall*. For three years, Ken served as managing editor of *NoD Magazine*, and for one year, he served as poetry editor of *filling Station*. Ken holds an MA in English from Concordia University, and is the founder of Spacecraft Press, an online publisher of experimental writing inspired by science and technology. He lives in Calgary.

RECENT BACKLIST



The Year of My Disappearance

Carole David
Translated by Donald Winkler

Carole David's *The Year of My Disappearance* is a searing, surreal, darkly comic descent into a woman's psyche: as pitiless an assault on her own torments and pretences as it is on those figures lodged in her memory: lovers, strangers, her own mother, Bosch-like apparitions out of her dreams and imaginings.

15 February 2018 | Poetry
7.75x5.25 inches | 72 pages
Trade Paper: 9781771664158 \$18.00
Author Hometown: Montreal, QC
Translator Hometown: Montreal, QC

Nonfiction



Dear Current Occupant

by Chelene Knight

"A nuanced creative touchstone that shows us how our stories of survival can and should be told."
—Amber Dawn

Essais No. 5
358pp, March 2018
ISBN 9781771663908
\$20.00

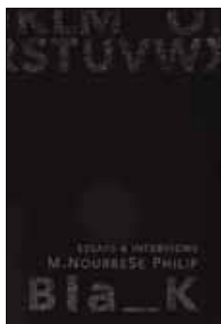


Authenticity is a Feeling: My Life in PME-ART

by Jacob Wren

A compelling hybrid of history, memoir, and performance theory dedicated to the act of "being yourself in a performance situation."

169pp, March 2018
ISBN 9781771663892
\$20.00

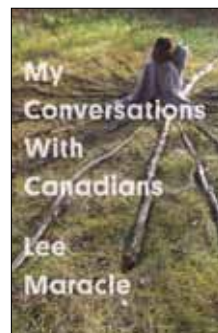


Blank: Essays and Interviews

by M. NourbeSe Philip

A book about race, the body politic, timeliness, ongoingness, art, and the so-called multicultural nation.

Essais No. 3
358pp, November 2016
ISBN 9781771662567
\$20.00

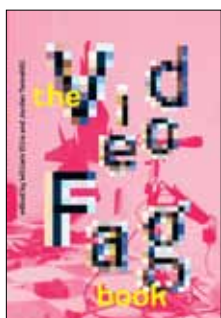


My Conversations With Canadians

by Lee Maracle

A tour de force exploration into this writer's own history and a reimagining of the nation.

Essais No. 4
169pp, October 2017
ISBN 9781771663588
\$20.00

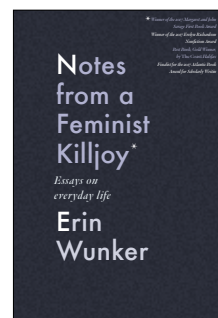


The Videofag Book

Edited by William Ellis
& Jordan Tannahill

A chronicle of Videofag, a Toronto counterculture hub from 2012-2016

192pp, October 2017
Full colour photos throughout
ISBN 9781771663625
\$20.00



Notes From a Feminist Killjoy

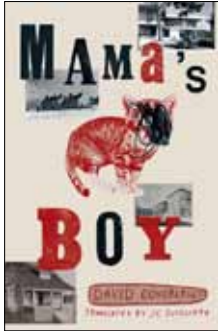
by Erin Wunker

An engaging look at why feminism is still very necessary.

Now in paperback
Essais No. 2
169pp, November 2017
ISBN 9781771663700
\$20.00

RECENT BACKLIST

Fiction



Mama's Boy
David Goudreault
Translated by JC Sutcliffe

A troubled young man sets out in search of his mother after a childhood spent shuffling from one foster home to another.

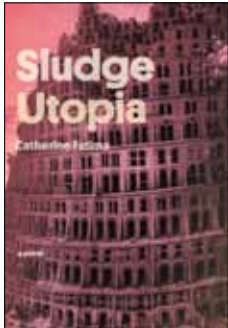
203pp, June 2018
ISBN 9781771663823
\$20.00



Document 1
by François Blais
Translated by JC Sutcliffe

A tragicomic tale of two dreamers and their quest for adventure, as well as a satirical take on the world of arts and letters.

168pp, April 2018
ISBN 9781771663786
\$20.00



Sludge Utopia
by Catherine Fatima

An auto-fictional novel about sex, depression, family, shaky ethics, ideal forms of life, girlhood, and coaching oneself into adulthood under capitalism.

243pp, June 2018
ISBN 9781771663748
\$20.00



The Third Person
by Emily Anglin

"*The Third Person* has a tone that is singular, consistent, and very involving."
—*The Winnipeg Review*

168pp, November 2017
ISBN 9781771663663
\$20.00



Readopolis
by Bertrand Laverdure
Translated by Oana Avasilichioaei

Winner: 2017 Governor General's Literary Award for Translation

254pp, April 2017
ISBN 9781771662987
\$20.00



Blood Fable
by Oisín Curran

Finalist: 2018 Thomas Raddall Atlantic Fiction Award

245pp, October 2017
ISBN 9781771662949
\$20.00

Poetry



This Will Be Good
by Mallory Tater

These poems deftly bear witness to the performance of femininity and gender construction.

72pp, March 2018
ISBN 9781771663946
\$18.00



Rag Cosmology
by Erin Robinson

Winner: 2017 A.M. Klein Prize for Poetry

96pp, April 2017
ISBN 9781771663144
\$18.00

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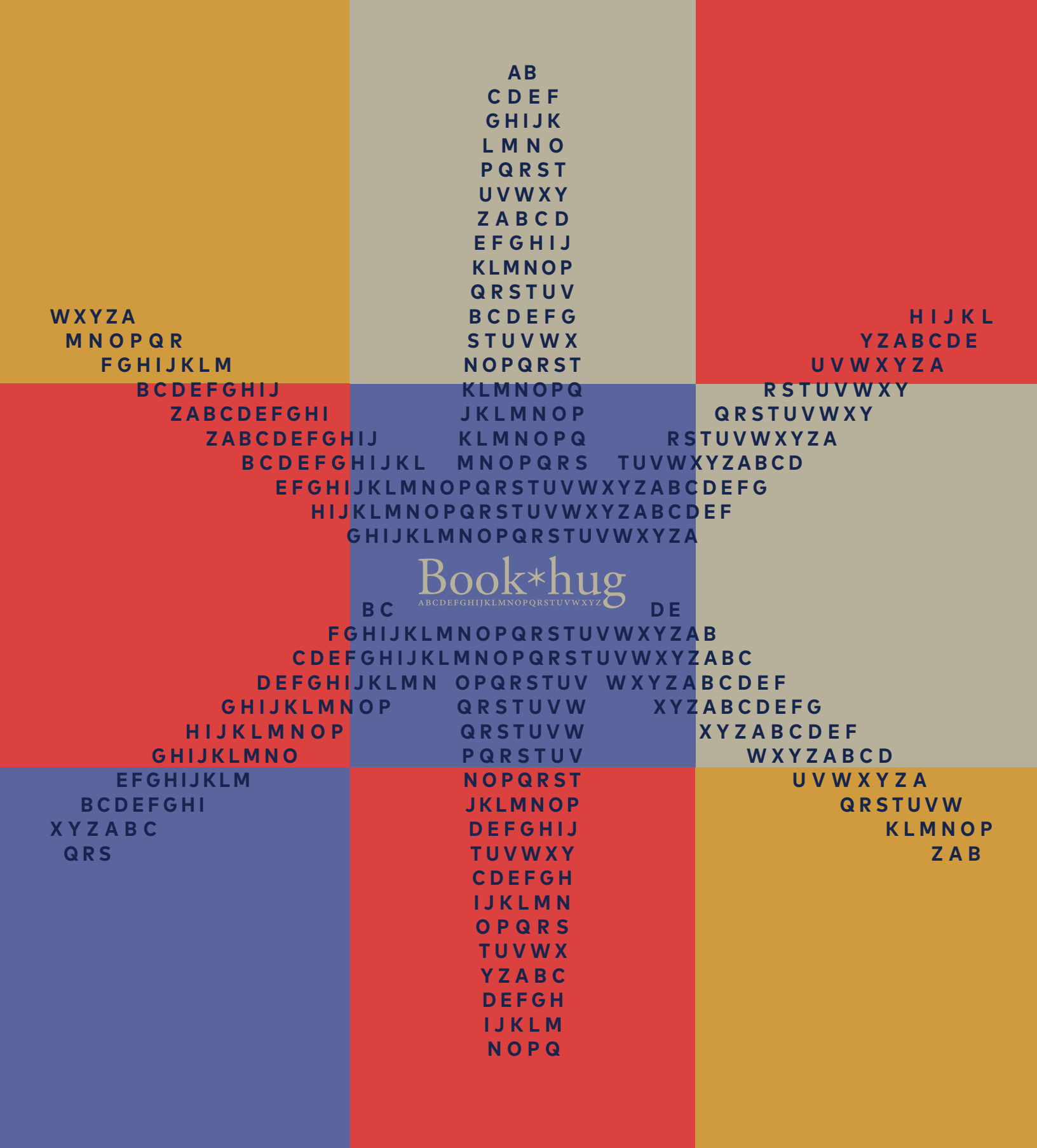


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