

The Art of the Book

Think about a work of art. Now think of it in the form of a book—the “art” including the front and back covers and everything in between. And, in addition to enjoying it as an object of fine art, you can enjoy it as a piece of literature!

The Club has in its ranks two distinguished book artists whose work has been recognized as among the best.

For **Alan Stein**, the impetus is poetry that he especially connects with. Alan begins by approaching the writer about the possibility of making a limited press edition—usually between 50 and 100 books. His collaborators have included P.K. Page, Michael Crummey, Al Purdy, Douglas LePan and Gary Michael Dault. The process is collaborative, with back and forth about what poems to include, the order, etc. Alan



Frontispiece, *Viewfinder* (poems, Michael Crummey); hand-painted wood engraving by Alan Stein

then selects paper—always handmade and often in different colours for texts and illustrations.

The print process starts by hand setting type for the text pages and then printing each page one at a time. As this is happening, Alan is thinking about the illustrations and making sketches. The design and wood engravings are next; then he prints that set of pages. The frontispiece is always a wood engraving hand-coloured in each

individual book. Finding the “right” cover image takes longer and emerges as he works through the book. Then, after hand-sewn binding and finishing, what you hold in your hand is an “Alan Stein” original, with poetry by an artist of his choice. You can see the books at: www.alanstein.ca/handprinted.

George Walker’s books are closer in style to the graphic novel, with an emphasis on fine illustration, also wood engravings. Some of his books do have words—two *Alice* books, and a “how-to” for woodcut artists. George has had a long interest in the wordless novels of graphic artists such as Franz Masareel from the 1930s to the ’50s. His own first wordless novel, *The Book of Hours*, dealt with lives of ordinary people in the hours leading up to 9/11 in New York City. Others include *The Wordless Leonard Cohen Songbook* and works on

Tom Thomson’s mysterious death, Conrad Black, and Pierre Trudeau.

George starts by sketching a few ideas while thinking about the narrative, scene to scene, picture to picture. Then he makes and prints the first group of engravings. After proofing, he may do further work on those, and, as the narrative develops he works up new images, adds, subtracts and changes the order, until they tell the story. Because two pages are printed on a paper sheet (e.g., pages 19 and 82 might be on the same



George Walker working on a wood engraving in his studio

paper spread), nothing can be printed until the order is final. Like Alan, George hand-colours some images, typically, the frontispiece. He also pays a lot of attention to the cover presentation, sometimes using engravings or embossing, and often creates protective clamshell boxes for the books.

The process often embeds unusual connections with the subject. Some of the wood blocks George used for the Trudeau book came from the fallen maple tree that was said to have inspired the writer of *The Maple Leaf Forever*. The number of books in an edition is often associated with the subject in some way—so, the 80-copy *Wordless Songbook* recognizes Cohen’s 80th birthday; the 13 copies of the Conrad Black edition reflect the 13 boxes removed in the night from Hollinger Inc. that started Black’s legal troubles. See the engravings and read more about the books at George’s website: www.george-walker.com.

Two other special mentions. *The Devil’s Artisan* is Canada’s journal of the printing arts. Founded in 1980, it appears twice a year and is chock full of interesting information about book printing and publishing in Canada, with an emphasis on small presses. **Don McLeod** is the editor. (You can browse through back issues at: devilsartisan.ca/previous_issues_79.html.) And **Stan Bevington**’s Coach House Press, which, for over 50 years, has been a major force in Canadian book design and printing.

The annual Alcuin Awards for Excellence in Book Design in Canada, organized by **Chester Gryski**, will be presented this year at our October 2 Club Night. The “limited editions” category is one of several to be recognized.

Members' News

Correction: The correct date of the John Seltzer and Mark Seltzer Memorial Lecture sponsored by **Dorene Seltzer** is Wednesday, September 27, at the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library. Professor Andrew Pettegree of the University of St. Andrews in Scotland will speak on "Print and the Reformation: A Drama in Three Acts." Please confirm your attendance with the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library (416-978-5285).

On October 21, the Toronto Symphony Orchestra will present a special Sequicentennial concert entitled *With Glowing Hearts*, honouring Canadian music. Works by many of Canada's most significant composers will be featured, including compositions by Violet Archer, Claude Champagne, **Harry Freedman**, Harry Somers, John Weinzwieg and **John Beckwith's** *Flower Variations and Wheels*. Performers include conductor and host **Victor Feldbrill** and **Christina Petrowska Quilico**, piano.

Time to play with clay! **Andrew Benyei** will be teaching an eight-week figurative sculpture course on Wednesday nights from 6:30–9:30 p.m. starting October 25 at Lucsculpture (Danforth and Greenwood). Ideal for reluctant beginners to advanced. For more information email andrew@benyei.com.

Heidi Burkhardt is showing her work in the Fall Beach Studio Tour on October 20, 21 and 22. It's an autumn cruise around the lovely homes and studios in this fine east-end neighbourhood. For details see: beachstudiotour.ca

William Denton's new project, *Listening to Art*, is online at <https://listeningtoart.org>. It comprises field recordings of visual art. New issues are published twice a month.

David Edwards is showing photographic works at the Dylan Ellis Gallery at 1840 Danforth Avenue from

October 1–30. The exhibition focuses on the evolution of cities and humankind's relationship to space. The opening reception is Thursday, October 12, from 6:00–9:00 pm. See "Connections Gallery Blog—Spotlight on David Edwards": connectionsgallery.wordpress.com/2017/08/14/urban-spotlight-david-edwards

John Inglis opens a solo show at the Yellow House Gallery on Thursday, October 19, from 7:00–9:00 p.m. It closes November 11. The Gallery is at 921 Kingston Rd., east of Main St. For more information call 416-792-8460.

As part of Canada 150 Celebrations and as a complement to Prince Harry's Invictus Games, curator Barbara Brown has put together a military-inspired art gallery show entitled *The Steel Spirit*. **Diane Kruger** is among ten military artists featured in the exhibition, which will be open to the public throughout September and October in Barrie City Hall's First Floor Gallery. A reception will be held on Thursday, October 12, from 7:00–9:00 p.m.

Rebecca Last is part of an upcoming two-person exhibition at Christensen Fine Art, George St., Peterborough. The opening reception is September 29. For further details, contact Rebecca or go to www.rebeccalast.com/news. The exhibition runs through October.

Doug Purdon's watercolour *Thames Barge—Melissa* has been accepted into the 38th Annual International Marine Art Exhibition, Mystic Maritime Museum, Mystic CT. This gallery at Mystic Seaport is the foremost gallery specializing in contemporary marine art in the U.S. and for four decades has exhibited the works of leading maritime artists from around the globe.

Alan Stein will be on the ship *Ocean Endeavour* for two weeks with Adventure Canada, departing September 23 for Greenland, crossing the Davis Strait to the Labrador coast and then to Newfoundland, as an on-board artist, sketching and painting. He will present his sketches in an exhibition at the Club in March 2018.

George Walker will give the Alexander C. Pathy Lecture in the Book Arts at the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library on October 25. His topic is *Written in Wood: Visual Narratives with a Canadian Cut*.

New Members

Andrew ("Andy") Ross is a fine artist whose paintings have been exhibited in numerous solo and group shows around the world. His work has been shown at numerous exhibits around the world, and is part of public, private and corporate collections. He is eager to engage different activities at the Club, including likely participation in Club exhibitions and the Art Committee. He is sponsored by **Virginia Trieloff** and **Judy Smith**.

Louise Vezina comes from a career of teaching visual arts in high school. She belongs to two artist-run galleries and is a photographer as well. Her photographs, prints and drawings have been shown and sold internationally. She looks forward to taking part in our Studio painting and photography events, and to being part of our artistic community. She is sponsored by **Melanie Duras** and **Julie Gray**.

We welcome documentary photographer **Patrick Cummings** and pianist **Richard Herriott** as complimentary members.



The Stage Committee announces a series of monthly readings of new and old scripts by Club members and others. Members are invited to participate by submitting scripts and by coming to listen and read with us.

Not sure if your script will work on stage? Not sure if your voice will hold an audience? Need to practise just a little bit more to vanquish that pesky stage-fright once and for all? Come and read with us! Beginning in mid-November.

The jurying is done and our terrific jurors had a struggle to choose from the wide selection of really superb paintings and drawings submitted. Of the many submissions only about 20% could be accepted, due to available exhibition space. We extend our congratulations to the following Club artists whose work was selected: **Anthony Batten, Peter G.S. Large, Ulla Nystrom** and **Micheal Zarowsky**. We are confident that NEXT2 is going to be an outstanding show!

Important dates to remember:

- ▶ **Saturday, September 30**
intake, hanging and awards jurying
- ▶ **Sunday, October 1, 1:00–3:00 p.m.**
“Soft Opening” and public Open House with tours of the building; portrait in oils demo by **Alan King** (Great Hall)
- ▶ **Thursday, October 5** ★
Gala Opening (by invitation only). Awards presentation by guest of honour Ian DeJardin, formerly of the Dulwich Gallery, U.K., champion of Canadian art and now Executive Director of the McMichael Canadian Art Collection
- ▶ **Thursday, October 12, 6:30 p.m.** ★
A Special NEXT2 Club Night to celebrate the exhibition and meet some of the award-winning artists over dinner and a panel discussion
- ▶ **Saturday, October 14, 1:00–3:00 p.m.**
Open House with tours of the building; demo of various media by **Doug Purdon** (Great Hall)
- ▶ **Sunday, October 15, 1:00–3:00 p.m.**
Open House with tours of the building; free studio painting open to the public; oilstick demo by **Heidi Burkhardt** (Great Hall)
- ▶ **Saturday, October 21, 1:00–3:00 p.m.**
Open House with tours of the building; sculpted portrait demo by **Andrew Benyei** (Great Hall)
- ▶ **Sunday, October 22, 1:00–3:00 p.m.**
Open House with tours of the building; free studio painting open to the public; graphite and coloured pencils demo by **Peter G.S. Large** (Great Hall)
- ▶ **Saturday, October 28**
Take-down of NEXT2

Donations towards the major awards (\$5,000 and \$2,500) of any amount are still needed—no amount is too small! And we could use more volunteers to run the open houses—only two hours each day.

Julian Mulock: julianmulock@hotmail.com



Club Night
Monday, October 23

The Club will present this year’s
Arts & Letters Award to

R.H. THOMSON

The recipient of the 2017 Arts & Letters Award is the distinguished Canadian actor and director **R.H. Thomson**. Mr. Thomson is well known for notable performances in the theatre, on television and in film, extending over many years. During his career, he has portrayed numerous Canadian historical figures, including former Club member **Dr. Frederick Banting**.



Mr. Thomson was appointed to the Order of Canada in 2010, and in 2015 he received a Governor General’s Performing Arts Award. He was also the Club’s **John Coulter** Honorary Member for Stage in 2006–07.

On the occasion of this award, the Club wishes in particular to recognize Mr. Thomson’s significant work in drawing attention to the terrible human cost of World War I through his leadership of “The World Remembers” project. As well as his other efforts to promote awareness and remembrance of the human dimensions of that catastrophic conflict, Mr. Thomson has recently turned his attention to the nurses, caregivers and mothers of that war, and will be presenting the program entitled *The Songs of Those Who Healed* at the Toronto Reference Library at 7:00 p.m. on November 13.

The Club is pleased and honoured to present the Arts & Letters Award for 2017 to R.H. Thomson.



Playwrights Guild of Canada

Tom Hendry Awards

Sunday, October 29, 6:00–9:00 p.m.

The Playwrights Guild of Canada administers the Toronto Arts and Letters Club of Toronto Foundation’s **Robert Beardsley** Award for Young Playwrights. The award was funded by Bob several years ago and is given to a full-time secondary or post-secondary student within the GTA for the creation of a one-act play script. This prize will be one of a number awarded at the Playwrights Guild of Canada’s annual awards night to be held at the Club.



Members are welcome to attend—there is no charge. Please reserve at: monique@playwrightsguild.ca and mention that you are a member of the Arts & Letters Club.

President's Column

Come to the Town Hall Conversation, Thursday, October 19



The Board has scheduled two Town Hall conversations to take place during this Club year. All members are invited and urged to attend. The first of these is scheduled for Thursday, October 19, 5:00–6:00 p.m. These sessions are called Town Hall “conversations” to emphasize that the gathering is intended as a

forum for discussion. Bring your ideas and suggestions for ways to enhance your experience as members! The Board is also interested in your ideas about how to meet the “100 Member Challenge,” as well as your thoughts about new programming at the Club. On October 19 members will also receive an update on important recent happenings involving the development proposals for the Chelsea Hotel property and the property next door at 8 Elm St. Light pub fare will be available at a cost of \$15 after the meeting for those who wish to linger and carry on the conversation. You do not need to register to attend the meeting, but please register if you plan to stay for the meal.

The Arts & Letters Clubhouse

The Club is at the centre of a great deal of artistic activity in the city of Toronto. We own a building that serves as a “clubhouse” for a variety of Toronto-based arts groups. The list of groups and arts organizations that rent space here for meetings and programs is very interesting: these have included in recent months the Canadian Society for Painters in Watercolour, the Crime Writers of Canada, the Duke Ellington Society, the International Society of Appraisers, the Ontario Society of Artists, Toronto Masque Theatre, Shakespeare in Action, Viva Youth Singers, PEN Canada, the Wagner Society and many others. If you know of an arts group or organization interested in rental space at a reasonable rate for a program, activity or meeting please refer them to the Club office.

Hangin' Out at the Club

The Club is a great place to spend unscheduled time during the day. It is open for members' use all day and some evenings from Monday to Friday, and occasionally for several hours on weekends as well. For non-resident members or those who live outside the downtown area, the Club can serve as a central Toronto base and resting place. If you are in the area and want a restful location to relax or read, make a phone call, use the washroom or meet friends for a drink at the bar, the Club is the place to be. So, remember—while we do focus on arts related programming for members, we are here for more than just attending programs and activities. The Club is also for your use as a refuge from the hurly-burly of downtown Toronto.

David Phillips, President

LISTEN, WRITE AND SHARE!

A new three-part Writers' Workshop with **Rosemary Aubert**

WHERE DO IDEAS COME FROM?

Thursdays, October 26, November 2 and 9
7:00–9:00 p.m.

For members and their guests: limited to 15 participants.

To sign up, email Rosemary (roseaube@istar.ca)

“Rosemary's last two workshops were very worthwhile. As a result of her coaching, we decided to keep on meeting and working together—now we are the 'Writers' Group!'”

Mary Kehoe



Another Member's Profile

Wondering what to say about yourself in your profile on the Members' website? Here's one that might inspire you!

“I was a somewhat “LAMPS”-y youth, publishing a poem in a literary magazine, drawing and selling pictures of dubious quality, reviewing concerts, even though unable to read music, and appearing on stage with the Comédie Française (during one of whose performances I spilled hot wax on Jackie Kennedy). Then I fell among evil companions (politicians, PR people and the like) and spent three decades helping to bloat bureaucracies. In my retirement I have, as far as possible, been atoning for my middle years by wallowing among the fleshpots of Elm Street.”

Tim Nau



Rainbow over the iceberg, Newfoundland west coast
photo **Bill Michelson**

The Music of Sultan Selim III

While Napoleon marched across a war-ravaged Europe, the reform-minded Sultan Selim III ruled the Ottoman Empire. As the west was discovering the music of Beethoven, Haydn and Mozart, the Sultan presided over a court where the arts thrived and music was encouraged and appreciated. Not only was he a patron of the arts; he himself was a composer of note. Much of his music was set aside until the later part of the 20th century, when it was revived and some of it recorded.

Leslie Hall has taught a wide range of music courses at Ryerson University. She is a specialist in Turkish music:

Tell us about the Sultan and his court.

He ruled from 1789–1807. He was progressive, was interested in the ideas coming out of the French revolution and secretly corresponded with some of the figures in that movement. He was much concerned about corruption and instituted a number of reforms in Turkey. As a result of his attempts to reform the military, he was assassinated by political opponents in his own palace apartment.



His court reflected the man—he was a poet and a musician himself, and composed court songs and chamber music. He was intrigued by and promoted Western music—new ideas such as 3/4 (waltz) time!

He is associated with the Mevlevi Whirling Dervishes. Can you tell us about that?

This is a mystical sect dating back to the 13th century. They believe that music and whirling leads to spiritual enlightenment. Every element of the ceremony has meaning—the slow rhythmic whirling, the music, the attire. They have always been very open: anyone, regardless of faith, can watch their ceremonies or become a novice. Selim was interested in and was a supporter of the Mevlevi and wrote the music for one of their ceremonies.

What does his music sound like?

You'll hear some of it on October 18 at the Club! Reminiscent of Gregorian chant, the music is monophonic, with the instruments all playing the same line. But unlike Gregorian chant, the players can add subtle ornamentation, and there may be solos where a performer can create a longer improvisation—think of jazz. And you would hear many different scales that are unfamiliar to us. I will place the Sultan's music within the wider context of other types of Turkish music, including folk and nightclub music, which some people may have heard.

Come and hear Leslie Hall at Music Wednesday on October 18, when she will tell us the Sultan's story and sample his music.

Restoration Work Begins!



The scaffolding is up, and the front façade conservation project will begin shortly! The work includes repairing and cleaning the stone and brick, repairing downspouts, painting eaves and window sills and more.

This project is funded by generous donations made by Club members to Heritage Toronto and to the Club's "125 for 125" campaign, through a Parks Canada Cost-Sharing Grant, in-kind services of ERA Architects who are overseeing the project, and the Club's Capital Reserve Fund.

We'll keep you updated as the work progresses.

Ian McGillivray
Chair Property Committee

The Great Adventure: 100 Years at the Arts & Letters Club

We are delighted that **Margaret McBurney's** "Club's history," first released in recognition of our centennial in 2008, has been reprinted and is available in the lounge or the office.

This is a fascinating look at our history and what went into making the Club the place we know today. You'll come away convinced that Margaret knew each one of these fascinating characters personally!



"Birds of a Feather Group" from *The Great Adventure*

Visual Arts News

CALL FOR ENTRY

The "Big Classy" Small Works Show: Great Hall and Lounge, November 26 to January 5.

Artists may submit up to five works, maximum image size 12" on any side. For this show only, previously exhibited work may be submitted in addition to new work. At least one work from each entrant will be included in the show.

- Intake: Friday, November 24, from 11:00 a.m.– 2:00 p.m. and Saturday, November 25, from 9:00–10:15 a.m. Late entries will not be accepted. Jurying begins at 10:30 a.m.
- Take-down Saturday, January 6, 9:00–11:00 a.m.



Congratulations to **Laurie De Camillis**, shown here with her painting and award donor **Jack Gilbert**. Laurie is the winner of the first annual Deborah Gilbert Award for *Plein Air Painting*, presented by Jack at Club Night, September 11. Photo **Gord Fulton**

EXHIBITIONS

October 1–27: **NEXT2**: see page 3 for information. Volunteers are needed to help with the installation of the show on September 30

October 29–November 24: **Lucie Simons**—*Retrospective: Oil Paintings and Serigraphs*

- Monday, October 29: Club Night Opening
Speaker Martha McKee, "Wedgwood: Art and Innovation"

Exhibitions through June 2018

- January 8–27: *From the Club's Permanent Collection*
- January 27–February 24: *Winter Group Show: "Achromatic"*
- February 24–March 24: *Spring Group Show: "Faces and Flowers"*
- March 24–April 20: Solo shows: **Alan Stein** (Great Hall) and **Marvyne Jenoff** (Lounge)
- April 20–May 18: Solo shows: **Marina Hanacek** (Great Hall) and **Rati Vajpeyi** (Lounge)
- May 18–June 16: *Photography Group Show*
- June 16–September 1: *Summer Group Show*

THE Big Classy #3 Small Works Show and Sale

Open to the Public

Sunday, November 26, noon–4:00 p.m.

Featuring our members' painting, drawing, printmaking, collage, sculpture, photography, books and CDs.

CLASSY

Complimentary gift bags & light refreshments.

...AND MORE CLASSY

The first 12 to spend \$150 will win a caricature drawn on the spot by cartoonist Alan King!

CREATORS

COME OUT and SELL YOUR WORK

Registration for table space starts at 8:00 a.m., Sunday, October 29. (Details in November issue.)

VOLUNTEERS

On November 26 we will need six volunteers from 10:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. and 1:30–4:00 p.m. to help greet visitors and direct traffic. There will be complimentary refreshments for you.

IMPORTANT TO KNOW

Vendor Tables are for work created by you. Crafts or decorations are not eligible.

Artists with work on the walls should plan to be present during the sale.

Invitations will be available for pickup and distribution well in advance of the Big Classy Sale date.

Questions about the Sale Day can be directed to the coordinator Judy Raymer Ivkoff:
judyraymer@sympatico.ca, or by telephone.

Adventures in Creativity with John Inglis

John Inglis's classes this month are October 5 and 19 from 1:00–3:00 p.m. and they continue alternate Thursdays until December 14 in the Studio: john@inglisquest.com.

Studio Painting Contacts

Wednesdays: **Martha West Gayford**: mwestgayford@ca.inter.net

Fridays: **Wendy Boyd**: wendyab@pathcom.com

Sundays: **Lynn Bertrand**: lynnbertrandfinearts@gmail.com

Art Committee Chair: **Wendy Boyd**: wendyab@pathcom.com

compiled by **Nancy DeBoni**

WHAT'S ON IN OCTOBER

Film Night

Bar 5:30 p.m.; Dinner 6:30 p.m.
by [reservation](#) • \$25.50

Wednesday, October 25
hosted by **Linda Beck**

LIFE STINKS



In 1991 Mel Brooks produced one of his least celebrated movies, *Life Stinks*. It's the tale of a fabulously wealthy and unscrupulous real estate developer who suffers a reversal of fortune and learns what really matters in life. Mel Brooks stars as Goddard Bolt, the totally repellent, self-serving protagonist. The film might draw a great following if it were released today, but in 1991 it failed at the box office and also with most critics—except for Roger Ebert, who found it “thoughtful ... warm and poignant.”

The WRITERS' GROUP

Every Thursday from 6:00–8:00 p.m.

Members and their guests who are interested in writing fiction are invited to join us. The Group will participate in **Rosemary Aubert's** creative writing program. See page 4.

Contact **Mary Kehoe**: kehoe_mary@hotmail.com

Photography Group

The subject of the September meeting was “What I Shot on my Summer Vacation.” We viewed sunsets, a shot of the incessant summer rain; the top pick was a rainbow over an iceberg by **Bill Michelson**.

Many of our comments and critiques centred around cropping and how that tool will enhance most photos, and, as it happens, **Gord Fulton** had prepared a short presentation on cropping to show five examples illustrating before and after the crop.

The next meeting takes place on:
Wednesday, October 4, at 6.30 p.m.

The challenge: “TEXTURES”

This could be: clothing, fences, faces, barns ...

Please send two images to **Gord Fulton**:
fultongord@gmail.com by Monday, October 2, or contact him for further information.

The Art of Conversation

Wednesday, October 11, 6:00 p.m.
in the LAMPSroom

**Topic: The World is Changing.
Is the Club Changing?
What should the Club encompass?**

Sandwiches must be ordered from the office no later than Friday, October 6, 4:00 p.m.

Hosted by **Elaine Stirling**:
esheppard7@gmail.com



“Pleasant Hour”



\$2 off drinks from 4:30–6:30 p.m. every Wednesday.
On the last Wednesday of the month we are pleased to welcome members of the St. George's Society.

WHAT'S ON IN OCTOBER

Club Night

Bar 5:30 p.m.; Dinner 6:30 p.m.
by reservation • \$25.50

Monday, October 2

THE ALCUIN AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN BOOK DESIGN IN CANADA



Certificates will be presented to the winners from Eastern Canada of books published in 2016, and the winning entries will be on display in the LAMPSroom from 5:00 p.m.

FRANK VIVA, Guest Speaker

Frank Viva came to illustration through fine art, to design through illustration and to writing through design. He is a frequent cover artist for *The New Yorker* magazine. His work has appeared on the *New York Times* 10 Best Illustrated Children's Books list, *New York Times* Editors' Choice and has been short listed for a Governor-General's Award. His book *Young Frank, Architect* was the first picture book ever created for The Museum of Modern Art's publications department.

Monday, October 9

THANKSGIVING—CLUB CLOSED

Monday, October 16

JANE COOP, PIANO



We are thrilled and honoured to welcome Jane Coop OC, one of Canada's most distinguished and internationally recognized musicians (she has performed in 26 countries and with major orchestras worldwide!). Professor Emeritus of the University of Columbia, where she was Professor of Piano and Head of Piano for over twenty years, she now devotes herself full time to performing. She brings us a program of Beethoven and Rachmaninoff.

"... not only technical prowess but intellectual perception and telling interpretive instincts" (New York Times).

Monday, October 23

An evening to celebrate the presentation of the Arts & Letters Award for 2017 to

R.H. THOMSON

See page 3 for more information



Club members will read excerpts from his acclaimed play

The Lost Boys.

Monday, October 30

MARTHA MCKEE

"Wedgwood: Art and Innovation"

"Josiah Wedgwood was the greatest man who ever, in any age or industry, applied himself to the important work of uniting art and industry."

William Gladstone,
Prime Minister of England, 1863

Through an expert's look at the history of Josiah Wedgwood and the eponymous company he founded, we will learn how this extraordinary person influenced the 18th and 19th centuries beyond the ceramics industry to include such influential figures as William Blake, George Stubbs and Wedgwood's descendants Charles Darwin and Ralph Vaughan Williams.

A lifelong ceramics enthusiast, Martha McKee has a degree in English from Exeter University (England), and in English Literature and Fine Art History from the University of Toronto. For many years she was Vice President, Communications, for the Wedgwood companies in Canada and the UK.



WHAT'S ON IN OCTOBER

Literary Table

Bar 12 noon; Lunch 12:15 p.m.
by reservation • \$21

Tuesday, October 3

BOB DAVIDSON “The Art of the Hotel”

Through its vast capacity for variety and mixing of people, the hotel has attained a symbolic charge that translates readily into aesthetics. Not surprisingly, it has found its way into the work of painters and photographers.

Bob Davidson will look at the hotel in painting and photography during the 19th and 20th centuries with special attention to Edward Hopper’s fascinating hotel paintings. Bob is Associate Professor of Spanish and Catalan Studies at U of T and Director of the Northrop Frye Centre at Victoria College. His latest book, *The Hotel: Occupied Space*, will be available shortly.



Tuesday, October 10

ART WEIS “Down House, where Darwin Wrote the Book that Changed the World”

After his three-year sailing voyage around the world, Darwin took to his country home, Down House, which became his one-man research institute. It took many years of inspecting specimens from his travels, and experimenting with orchids in the glasshouse and earthworms in the garden, for Darwin to produce his “brief sketch” of natural selection. Many evolutionary biologists make the pilgrimage to Down House to stand on the spot where it all unfolded.



Art Weis is professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at U of T, and former director of the university’s biological field research facility, Koffler Scientific Reserve at Jokers Hill. His most recent work is on plant evolutionary response to climate change.

Tuesday, October 17

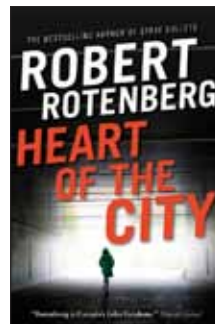
PETER RUSSELL “Canada’s Odyssey”

Canada is known around the world for its social diversity and its commitment to principles of multiculturalism. But the road to contemporary Canada is a winding one, a story of division and conflict as well as of union and accommodation.

Peter Russell provides an expansive account of Canadian history from the pre-Confederation period to the present day. By focusing on what he calls Canada’s “three pillars”—English Canada, French Canada, and Aboriginal Canada—he advances the view of our country as one informed by “incomplete conquests.” It is the very incompleteness of these conquests that has made us who we are today.

Tuesday, October 24

ROBERT ROTENBERG “Heart of the City”



Robert Rotenberg is the best-selling author of five mystery novels set in Toronto. His books have been translated into nine foreign languages and sold in more than 20 countries. He is also a full-time criminal lawyer.

A man of many talents, for a decade he was a magazine editor in Paris and in Toronto, and has been a radio producer at the CBC and a film executive.

Tuesday, October 31

MADLINE DICK “On the Writing of Historical Novels: A Personal View”

Novels are a way to get into the heart of the story—to let the characters themselves talk. Historical novels start with real people and events; setting them into fiction allows the author to speculate about motives and feelings.

Writers are always told that they should write about what they know best; for **Madeline Dick**, the past is a place she knows intimately through teaching and research at York University. She has written a book on an 11th-century abbess and a novel, *My Lady of Wessex*, set in the 10th century. She is currently writing a second novel about a spectacular divorce case in the early 11th century.



WHAT'S ON IN OCTOBER

Music Wednesday

Bar 12 noon; Lunch 12:15 p.m.
by reservation • \$21

Wednesday, October 4

CHRISTINA HALDANE soprano
CARL PHILIPPE GIONET piano
MICHELE JACOT clarinet

With her British and Acadian heritage, Christina is uniquely placed for this Canada 150-inspired recital featuring the song cycle *ECHO*, written for her by **David Jaeger** and set to poetry by Canadian-Irish poet (and her father) Seán Haldane. We will also hear works by Canadian composer Erik Ross and new settings of Acadian folksongs arranged by Carl.

To internationalize the program a bit, they team up with clarinetist Michele Jacot for Schubert's *The Shepherd on the Rock*.

"When I'm in the flow of singing well, it feels like everything and nothing at the same time: like flying almost!"



Wednesday, October 11

CHARISSA VANDIKAS, piano



Those who recall how Charissa wowed us in two brilliant programs last season—once in her duo with clarinetist Felipe Jimenez Murillo and once with two of her brothers—will look forward to hearing her again, this time in a solo program highlighting Schumann's dramatic and kaleidoscopic *Kreisleriana*, op.16, which the composer called "my favourite work ... overflowing with music and beautiful melodies."

With her multiple awards and increasingly prestigious solo and chamber engagements, Charissa is rapidly establishing herself as a performer to follow.

Wednesday, October 18

LESLIE HALL

"The Music of Sultan Selim III"



As well as being a reform-minded and modernizing ruler of the early nineteenth-century Ottoman Empire, it seems that Sultan Selim III would have been a stellar Arts and Letters Club member—a poet, calligrapher, musician, composer, proponent of the traditional and the new, and all in all a supporter of the fine arts.

Leslie Hall, a specialist in Turkish music, brings the Sultan to life in a talk that combines biography, poetry and music videos to enlighten us on the tantalizing music of the ruler's life and times.

See page 5 for more information.

Wednesday, October 25

SHENG CAI, piano

We are very pleased to introduce to the Club pianist Sheng Cai, who made his debut with the TSO at the age of 15 (chosen by a jury of which **Patricia Parr** was a member). Since then he has performed widely as a chamber musician and recitalist, and in the concerto repertoire with numerous other orchestras, many of his performances having been broadcast by the CBC.



He has recently earned the admiration of distinguished members of our Music Committee and drawn praise as a "most electrifying soloist." He will play Liszt's *Transcendental Etudes, Nos. 1–10*.

WHAT'S ON IN OCTOBER

Ad Lib

8:00–11:00 p.m.



Friday, October 6

Thanksgiving Weekend BYOBG

We return to the roots of Ad Lib with a Board Game Night for this Thanksgiving. Bring a favourite game or learn a new one with **Damon Lum** and friends.

Starts at 8:00 p.m. in the Studio.

Friday, October 13

DOUBLE BILL!

First: Barbara Mercer Book Launch

Barbara Mercer introduces her latest book of poetry entitled, *Happy Birthday Canada from Cabbagetown*. Five friends will read excerpts from it, with piano music by **James Musselwhite**.

Starts at 6:00 p.m. in the Great Hall

Second: Bring Your Own Camera

Bring your DSLR or your cell phone camera and take photos around our historic building. You can also provide props and/or use a favourite app for your camera phone!

Starts at 8:00 p.m. in the Studio.

Friday, October 20

JOTO Improv

Damon Lum welcomes the improv duo of Russell Batcher and Kevin Matviw! Come and support the courageous souls on stage or join in on the fun.

Starts at 8:00 p.m. in the Studio.

Friday, October 27

Ad Lib's Got Talent—Hallowe'en Edition!

Wear your best costumes as we bring back another night of talent for Hallowe'en 2017! **Damon Lum** hosts so break out that favourite song or dance you have been rehearsing. Prizes for the best costumes!

Starts at 8:00 p.m. in the Studio.

REMEMBER, AD LIB IS YOU!

If you have ideas for Ad Lib events, please contact our Ad Lib chair, **Damon Lum**, damon_lum@hotmail.com



Looking at Raindrops (That's what we did a lot of all summer);
photo **Sue Russell**

ARTWORK CREDITS

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Alan Stein
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Page 9: Book cover, Robert Rotenberg's *Heart of the City*; www.simonandschuster.ca
Page 10: Christina Haldane, Charissa Vandikas and Sheng Cai, photos from the artists
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LAMPSletter editor: **Carol Anderson**
Copy editor: **Jane McWhinney**

October 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Sunday Painters NEXT2 tours and portrait demo Alan King 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.	2 Club Night Alcuin Awards for Excellence in Book Design in Canada Speaker: Frank Viva 6:30 p.m.	3 Literary Cttee 10:45 a.m. Literary Table Bob Davidson "The Art of the Hotel" 12:15 p.m.	4 Music Cttee 10:45 a.m. Painters' Studio Music Wednesday Christina Haldane, soprano Carl Philippe Gionet, piano Michele Jacot, clarinet 12:15 p.m. Property Cttee 4:30 p.m. Pleasant Hour 4:30-6:30 p.m. Stage Cttee: 6:30 p.m. Photography Group 6:30 p.m.	5 John Inglis's Adventures in Creativity: Great Hall, 1:00-3:00 p.m. Writers' Group 6:00-8:00 p.m. Next2 Gala (by invitation)	6 Painters' Studio TGIF lunch noon Ad Lib Thanksgiving Weekend BYOBG Studio, 8:00 p.m.	7
8 No Sunday Painters	9 THANKSGIVING Club Closed	10 Literary Table Art Weis "Darwin's Down House" 12:15 p.m.	11 Painters' Studio <i>LAMP</i> Letter deadline noon Music Wednesday Charissa Vandikas, piano Pleasant Hour 4:30-6:30 p.m. Art of Conversation 6:00 p.m.	12 Membership Cttee 5:15 p.m. Special Next2 Club Night 6:30 p.m. Writers' Group 6:00-8:00 p.m.	13 Painters' Studio TGIF lunch noon Ad Lib Barbara Mercer Book Launch Great Hall 6:00 p.m. Bring Your Own Camera Studio, 8:00 p.m.	14 NEXT2 tours and media demo: Doug Purdon 1:00-3:00 p.m.
15 Sunday Painters (open to the public) NEXT2 tours and oilstick demo: Heidi Burkhardt 1:00-3:00 p.m.	16 Club Night Jane Coop, piano 6:30 p.m.	17 Literary Table Peter Russell "Canada's Odyssey" 12:15 p.m.	18 Painters' Studio Music Wednesday Leslie Hall "Music of Sultan Selim III" 12:15 p.m. Pleasant Hour 4:30-6:30 p.m.	19 John Inglis's Adventures in Creativity Studio, 1:00-3:00 p.m. Town Hall Conversation 5:00-6:00p.m. Pub night supper to follow Writers' Group 6:00-8:00 p.m.	20 Painters' Studio TGIF lunch noon <i>LAMP</i> Sletter mailing Ad Lib JOTO Improv Studio, 8:00 p.m.	21 NEXT2 tours and sculpted portrait demo: Andrew Benyei 1:00-3:00 p.m.
22 Sunday Painters (open to the public) NEXT2 tours and graphite/coloured pencils demo: Peter G.S. Large 1:00-3:00 p.m.	23 Board Meeting 4:30 p.m. Club Night R.H. Thomson Arts & Letters Award 6:30 p.m.	24 Literary Table Robert Rotenberg "Heart of the City" 12:15 p.m.	25 Painters' Studio Music Wednesday Sheng Cai, piano Pleasant Hour 4:30-6:30 p.m. Film Night: Life Stinks dinner 6:30; movie 7:30 p.m.	26 Rosemary Aubert's Writing Workshop/ Writers' Group 6:00-8:00 p.m.	27 Painters' Studio TGIF lunch noon Ad Lib Ad Lib's Got Talent— Hallowe'en Edition! Studio, 8:00	28
29 Sunday Painters Lucie Simons Public Art Opening 1:00-4:00 p.m. Robert Beardsley Award for Young Playwrights 6:00-9:00 p.m.	30 Art Cttee 4:00 p.m. Club Night Martha McKee "Wedgwood: Art and Innovation" 6:30 p.m.	31 Literary Table Madeline Dick On the Writing of Historical Novels 12:15 p.m.				

Events requiring reservations are shown in bold.

November Issue Deadline for Members' News:
Wednesday, October 11 at 12 noon
Sunday, October 8 for other items

As there is a high demand for space, items will be accepted in order of receipt as long as space is available. If you wish to include an event or feature, please contact the editor with as much advance notice as possible, so that space can be reserved, and plan to submit it no later than Sunday, October 8, or by arrangement with the editor. Email submissions to lampsletter@artsandlettersclub.ca. If you can not email, contact Naomi Hunter well in **advance of your deadline**. Late submissions can not be accepted.

The *LAMP*Sletter will be mailed out on October 20; it is also available each month on our website: www.artsandlettersclub.ca/lampsletters.

RESERVATION/CANCELLATION/PAYMENT INFORMATION

You may book through the [private link on the website](#), by email: reservations@artsandlettersclub.ca, or by telephone: 416-597-0223, ext. 2 (voicemail). Please specify which events you are booking and the number of places you require.

Advance reservations avoid disappointment. Reservations are required for most events with meals except TGIF lunch. Please reserve at least 24 hours in advance, with the exception of Monday Club Night, for which reservations are requested by the end of day the preceding Friday.

Payments: Most events with meals are payable at the door, with the exception of Special Events and Members' Dinners, for which payment is required in advance. The Club prefers payment by cash, cheque, debit and Club card, and accepts VISA and MasterCard.

Cancellations: Cancellations will be accepted up to 24 hours in advance of the day of the event. A refund or credit will be issued for events (some exceptions will apply) that have been paid for in advance, provided that the cancellation is received in advance.