

THURSDAY OCTOBER 20

ENMAX PRESENTS: THE WALRUS TALKS THE ART OF CONVERSATION

7:00 PM Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall, Rozsa Center

All events take place at the Rozsa Center, University of Calgary campus.

Dr. Sylvia Bashevkin, Professor, Department of Political Science, University College at University of Toronto

Dr. Françoise Baylis, Canada Research Chair in Bioethics and Philosophy, Dalhousie University

Dr. Marie Delorme, CEO, The Imagination Group of Companies

Denise Donlon, Broadcaster, corporate leader, and author

Amanda Lang, Anchor, Bloomberg TV Canada

Gianna Manes, President and CEO, Enmax Corporation

Fibbie Tatti, Advocate for Aboriginal languages and culture

FRIDAY OCTOBER 21

7:45 – 8:45 Registration, Rozsa Center Lobby

8:45 – 9:00 Welcome, Husky Oil Great Hall

9:00 – 10:15 Research Presentations

1A. FIGURES OF INFLUENCE, CIBC Hub Room

Moderator: Nora Stovel

Ruth Panofksy — Anna Porter as Cultural Advocate
Marie Vautier — Adrienne Clarkson and the Arts
Katja Thieme — A Feminist Theory of Political Deliberation: Francis Marion Beynon's Editorial and Fictional Writing (1917-1919)

1B. INTERSECTIONAL INTERVENTIONS IN A NEOLIBERAL REGIME: ANTI-RACIST FEMINIST SCHOLARS, PUBLIC INTELLECTUALS AND ACTIVISTS, Evans Room

Moderator: Pamela McCallum

Janice Williamson — Invisible Networks: Disrupting Discourses of Terrorism in the Case of Omar Khadr
Sheena Wilson — Women Scholars, Writers and Activists: Empowering Change
Asma Sayed — Unveiling Oppression: Muslim Canadian Women in the Public Sphere

10:15 – 10:30 Break, Husky Oil Great Hall

10:30 – 11:45 Research Presentations

2A. PHYSICAL FEMINISM, CIBC Hub Room

Moderator: Rebecca Sullivan

Rebecca Sullivan — Asking For It: Giving Voice to a Culture of Consent

Katherine Hoad-Reddick — Ventriloquized Feminism: How Femvertising Fetishizes Feminist Discourse

Helen Ramirez — Learning the Art of Imaginative Thinking to Stop Gendered Violence

2B. QUESTIONING POSITIONING, Evans Room

Moderator: Shannon Maguire

Jaclyn Meloche: The Rhetoric of the Lesbian Pose

Emma Morgan-Thorp: Falling off the Edge of the World: Counter-Coherence as Strategy in Canadian Women's Stories

Jessica MacEachern: The Folded Page of Feminist Poetics: (Re)Reading Lisa Robertson and Rachel Zolf

11:45 – 13:00 Lunch, Husky Oil Great Hall

13:00 – 13:45 Plenary Research Presentation, Evans Room

Moderator: Patrick Finn

Iga Mergler and Neil McLaughlin — Speaking Their Mind: Woman Intellectuals Negotiating and Redefining the Public Intellectual Role

13:45 – 14:00 Break, Husky Oil Great Hall

14:00 – 14:45 Featured Speakers, Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall

Moderator: Lisa Young

Denise Donlon

Broadcaster, corporate leader and author.

A powerful force on the Canadian music scene, Donlon uses popular culture as a jumping-off point for social activism.

Sylvia Bashevkin

What kind of conversation is this? Talking about women and power.

Professor of Political Science, University College at the University of Toronto, and expert on uncovering gender bias in Canada's political system.

14:45 – 15:00 Break, Husky Oil Great Hall

15:00 – 16:30 Featured Speakers, Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall

Moderator: Larissa Lai

Sylvia Hamilton

Award-winning documentary filmmaker and teacher, renowned for shedding light on the African Canadian experience.

Cherish Blood

Actor, storyteller, comedian, activist and Blackfoot woman extraordinaire.

Lee Maracle

What shapes the silence around Indigenous Women inside the feminist movement? We all know that the condition of Indigenous women is appalling and requires our very loud objections, but alas, the noise-making around Canada's treatment of us is left to those who are miss-treated. Why is that?

16:30 – 17:00 Break, Husky Oil Great Hall

17:00 – 18:30 Featured Speakers, Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall

Moderator: Jane Chamberlin

Katherine Govier and The Shoe Project

Award-winning novelist Katherine Govier founded The Shoe Project to strengthen the voices of immigrant women in Canada.

Performers include:

Kiden Jonathan

Rasha Elendari

Sujata Thapa

Maryam Nabavinejad

Manisha Shrestha

Noriko Ohsada

Maria Gregorish

Michelle Garcia

19:00 Dinner, Senate Room, 7th floor, Hotel Alma

Introduction: Aritha van Herk

Elizabeth Cannon

President and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Calgary, and former Dean of the Schulich School of Engineering. Cannon will speak to the challenges of leaning in and raising your voice in male-dominated fields.

SATURDAY OCTOBER 22

7:30 – 8:30 Registration, Rozsa Center Lobby

8:30 – 9:30 **PLENARY RESEARCH PANEL: INCREASING THE VISIBILITY OF WOMEN IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATH**, Evans Room

Moderator: Lesley Rigg

Laleh Behjat

Kristin Bauer

Jo-Anne Brown

Marina Gavrilova

Jocelyn Grozik

Emily Marasco

9:30 – 9:45 Break

9:45 – 11:00 Research Presentations

3A. UNUSUAL INFLUENCES, Scotiabank Milling Area

Moderator: Nancy Janovicek

Mélanie Méthot — Speaking Your Mind, or Not: The Judicial Careers of Police Magistrates Emily Murphy and Alice Jane Jamieson, 1916-1933

Leigh Spanner — Blogging the Military Experience: Military Wives Resist a 'Life Like No Other'

3B. POWER IN MOTION, CIBC Hub Room

Moderator: Peter Forestell

Bridgette Brown — Feminine Civility and Travel Journalism: Florence Randal and E. Maud Graham Write as Canada's "Teachers for South Africa" (1902)

Marjorie Johnstone — Imperial Feminist, Social Reformer: Charlotte Whitton

Jane Chamberlin — On Charisma and Control

3C. WRITING VOICES, Evans Room

Moderator: Shannon Maguire

Rosina Martucci — Mary Melfi: In Search of Myself, My Canadian Bonds and Discovering My Italian Origins

Geneviève Robichaud — Thinking Together: Pato and Mouré

Laurence Georgin — Agnes Deans Cameron: Gender Performativity in the Public Eye

11:00 – 12:15 Plenary Session, Evans Room

Moderator: Christl Verduyn

Carole Gerson — Telling Her Mind: Is There a Canadian *Uncle Tom's Cabin*?

Tanis MacDonald — Working, Class, Woman: Literary Citizenship in the Age of Attitude

Wendy Robbins — Rewriting Philomela: She's Got a Tongue of Her Own, That's Certain

12:15 – 13:30 Lunch, Rosza Center, Husky Oil Great Hall

13:30 – 14:30 Research Presentations

4A. SPEAKING AGAINST THE GRAIN, Scotiabank Milling Area

Moderator: Pamela McCallum

Petra Dolata — Let's Talk Business: Pat Carney and the Oil Patch, 1970s-1980s

Nancy Janovicek — "Feminist papers won't knuckle under": Feminist Voices in Images: A West Kootenay Women's Journal, 1973 - 1991

4B. WRITERS OF MIGHT, CIBC Hub Room

Moderator: Adrienne Kertzer

Nora Stovel — Fire Along the Frontier: Regulated Rage in Carol Shields's Academic Satire, *Swann*

Rob Winger — Elizabeth Bachinsky: Short-Circuiting the Divides of Poetic Critique

4C. WRITING AND SELF-REFLECTION, Evans Room

Moderator: Dymphny Dronyk

Meredith Quartermain — I, Bartleby

Sonja Greckol — Skein of Days

Nikki Reimer — Hold Your Fucking Communities Accountable: Defining and Creating Safer Spaces for Women, Trans, Non-Binary Individuals, and People of Colour in Literary Writing Communities

14:30 – 14:45 Break, Husky Oil Great Hall

14:45 – 15:45 Featured Speakers, Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall

Moderator: Christl Verduyn

Francine Pelletier

Documentary filmmaker and journalist with *The Fifth Estate*, *La Presse*, CTV's Sunday Edition and more; avid explorer of tensions between feminism and patriarchy in Canada.

Fibbie Tatti

A visionary advocate for Aboriginal languages and culture, Tatti brings together elders, teachers and language specialists to develop Dene language curriculum for Northwest Territories schools and to address self-government and the rites of passage.

Shari Graydon

Advocate, author and founder of *Informed Opinions*, Graydon shares astute advice for women who hesitate to raise their voices in public discourse.

15:45 – 16:00 Break

16:00 – 17:00 Featured Speakers, Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall

Moderator: Josephine Hill

Natalie Panek

Rocket scientist, explorer, and advocate for women in techology. Panek invariably inspires young women as she works toward her dream of becoming an astronaut.

Françoise Baylis

Canada Research Chair in Bioethics and Philosophy at Dalhousie University. Her work brings together issues of policy and practice, women's health and the future of biotechnology.

17:00 Close and Thank You, Rozsa Great Hall

**Aritha van Herk
Christl Verduyn
Jane Chamberlin**

PRESENTERS & FEATURED SPEAKERS

SYLVIA BASHEVKIN is a professor in the Department of Political Science at the University of Toronto, and has served as Principal of the U of T's University College. Best known for her research contributions in the field of women and politics, Bashevkin is a senior fellow of Massey College in the University of Toronto, and a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. Bashevkin is the author of numerous books, including *Women, Power, Politics: The Hidden Story of Canada's Unfinished Democracy* (Oxford University Press, 2009); *Tales of Two Cities: Women and Municipal Restructuring in London and Toronto* (UBC Press, 2006); and *Welfare Hot Buttons: Women, Work and Social Policy Reform* (University of Toronto Press and University of Pittsburgh Press, 2002).

KRISTINE BAUER is an assistant professor in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at the University of Calgary. She is one of the founding members of the Women in Topology network, which seeks to increase the retention and visibility of female scientists through collaborative research in her field of study.

FRANÇOISE BAYLIS, CM, Professor and Canada Research Chair in Bioethics and Philosophy at Dalhousie University, is an elected fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences. Her innovative work in bioethics, at the intersection of policy and practice, has stretched the very boundaries of the field. Baylis's research focuses on women's health with particular attention to novel genetic technologies, assisted human reproduction and research involving humans. This work aims to move the limits of mainstream bioethics and develop more effective ways to understand and tackle public policy challenges in Canada and abroad. Baylis believes bioethicists need to exercise their moral imagination and find creative ways to make the powerful care about justice and fairness. A public intellectual for the modern age, she is a frequent guest on CBC and Radio Canada and the author of many news stories with a "behind the scenes" look at ethical issues.

DR. LALEH BEHJAT is an associate professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Calgary. Her research interests include developing software for the automation of the design of computer hardware. She has won several awards for her research. In addition, Dr. Behjat has a passion for increasing the status of women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). Dr. Behjat was the recipient of the 2015 Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta (APEGA) Women in Engineering Champion Award.

CHERISH BLOOD is a Blackfoot woman from the Blood reserve in southern Alberta. She is an actress, writer, vocalist, storyteller and comedian. A graduate of the Center for Indigenous Theatre in Toronto, Cherish has numerous production credits to her name, including *Making Treaty 7*, *New Life* by Cliff Cardinal and *After the Fire: Based on Interviews about Idle No More*. Cherish is a great believer in the power of storytelling and humor to help you learn where you come from.

BRIDGETTE BROWN is a PhD candidate at Carleton University whose dissertation research explores literary interconnections between South Africa and Canada during the South African War (1899-1902). She is interested in the trade of early settler colonial discourses between the two countries and explores how contemporary connections between South Africa and Canada figure in the Canadian imagination.

JO-ANNE BROWN is an associate professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Calgary, and mom to a wonderful son. While her primary research interest is studying the magnetic field of the galaxy, she has a passion for psychology and using psychology in the classroom.

ELIZABETH CANNON is President and Vice-chancellor of the University of Calgary, and was the first female Dean of the Schulich School of Engineering. A renowned expert in geomatics engineering, Dr. Cannon is a pioneer in Global Positioning Systems (GPS) and she has commercialized

technology to over 200 agencies worldwide. Cannon is also a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, the Canadian Academy of Engineering, and the US Institute of Navigation.

PETRA DOLATA is the Canada Research Chair in the History of Energy. Her research interests include European and North American energy history after 1945, as well as the history and politics of the Canadian and circumpolar Arctic. She has published on Canada's foreign and Arctic policies, transatlantic relations, and the concept of energy security. She is tracing the emergence of energy security as a powerful story that continues to influence politics. In addition, using oral and everyday historical sources, she explores how people make sense of energy.

DENISE DONLON has been named Broadcast Executive of the Year three times at the Canadian Music Week Industry Awards, and has been inducted into the Canadian Association of Broadcasters Hall of Fame. She is also a Member of the Order of Canada. As director of music programming for MuchMusic and City TV, she became a key ambassador for Canadian culture. At MuchMusic, she brought a strong social and educational perspective to programming, producing *The New Music*, which confronted issues such as AIDS and the environment. In 2000, Donlon took on a new role as president of Sony Music Canada, where she continued nurturing talented Canadian musicians. She later served as executive director of CBC Radio.

RASHA ELENDARI was born in Syria and came to Canada in October 2012. She is a PhD candidate in Near Eastern archaeology at the University of Toronto. She is the president and cofounder of NMC – Cultural Exchange and Support Initiative, where U of T students and Syrian refugees share language and other skills.

MICHELLE GARCIA was born in the Philippines and came to Canada in 2012. She landed in Saskatchewan, took an Occupational Training Program at Bow Valley College, and presently resides in Canmore with her husband and three children.

MARINA L. GAVRILOVA is a professor in the Department of Computer Science at the University of Calgary, and is a co-founder of two laboratories: the Biometric Technologies Laboratory and the SPARCS Laboratory. Marina is a passionate promoter of diversity and equity in academia, and has received a number of awards, including Women of Distinction, Resilience and Wisdom.

LAURENCE GEORGIN is a second-year PhD student at the Université Paul-Valéry Montpellier. Her Masters thesis explored the writings of three women travel writers who visited northern Canada in the early 20th century. Her research interests include the relationship between gender, travel and space; the Canadian North as a space of transformation; and travel literature as a liberating tool.

CAROLE GERSON (English Department, Simon Fraser University), has published extensively on Canada's literary and cultural history, with a focus on women writers, early Canadian literature and Canadian book history. She received the Gabrielle Roy prize for criticism for her latest book, *Canadian Women in Print, 1750-1918*, which applies the principles of print culture analysis to a wide range of early authors.

KATHERINE GOVIER founded and directs The Shoe Project. She is the author of ten novels, the most recent being *The Three Sisters Bar and Hotel*. Katherine has been President of PEN Canada and is a vice-president of the Canadian Civil Liberties Association. She lives in Toronto and in Canmore, Alberta.

SHARI GRAYDON is an award-winning author, educator and advocate. She founded and leads the non-profit initiatives *Informed Opinions* and *ExpertWomen.ca*, which amplify women's voices for a more equitable Canada. Shari has taught communications, written commentary for many newspapers as well as CBC radio and TV, and served as press secretary to a BC premier. She produced a 13-part TV series for WTN about women and the media, and served as president of Media Watch for ten years. She received the Governor General's Award in Commemoration of the Person's Case for her advocacy work on behalf of women in 2007 and was honoured as one of Canada's Top 100 Most Powerful Women by WXN. She has written two best-selling media literacy books for kids (*Made You Look* and *In Your Face*), and edited a collection of essays by 40 women over

50 about the benefits of aging (*I Feel Great About My Hands*). Her most recent book, *OMG! What if I Really AM the Best Person?* inspires women to speak up more often.

SONKA GRECKOL's second book, *Skein of Days* (Pedlar 2014), was built from words and phrases harvested from publications of Greckol's own place and time and interweaves song titles, particles of scientific lexicon, and a poetic record drawn from each year's Governor General's Award winning book of poetry. Greckol has taught college and university, studied order and disorder in jokes, and done human rights and gender-based research and organizational diversity consulting.

MARIA GREGORISH was born under Nicolae Ceausescu's communist regime in Romania, where she trained as a historian and archaeologist. In 2008 she emigrated to Canada. She lives in Canmore with her husband and son.

JOCELYN GROZIC is the Associate Dean (Research) and a professor in the Department of Civil Engineering, Schulich School of Engineering, at the University of Calgary. She has a passion for soil mechanics and engineering, which she enjoys sharing with people inside and outside the STEM community.

SYLVIA HAMILTON is a multi-award-winning Nova Scotian filmmaker and writer who is known for her documentary films as well as her publications, public presentations and extensive volunteer work with artistic, social and cultural organizations on the local and national levels. Her films include *Black Mother Black Daughter*; *Speak It: From the Heart*

of Black Nova Scotia; Portia White: Think on Me; and The Little Black School House, among others. She has received many awards for her work, including a Gemini, The Portia White Prize, the CBC Television Pioneer Award, and the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal. *And I Alone Escaped To Tell You*, her poetry collection, published by Gaspereau Press, was short-listed for the League of Canadian 2015 Gerald Lampert Memorial Award and the East Coast Literary 2015 J.M. Abraham Poetry Award. She teaches part-time at the University of King's College where holds the Rogers Chair in Communications.

KATE HOAD-REDDICK is a 4th year PhD candidate in the Faculty of Information and Media Studies at Western University in London, Ontario. She is currently working on her PhD dissertation under the supervision of Dr. Romaine Smith-Fullerton. Kate's research centres around the trend of femvertising and the implications of commodified feminist messages.

NANCY JANOVICEK works in social history, the history of the Canadian Women's Movement, and history and ethics policy. With Catherine Carstairs, she edited the anthology, *Feminist History in Canada: New Essays on Women, Gender, Work, and Nation* (2014).

MARJORIE JOHNSTONE is a SSHRC Postdoctoral Fellow at York University, Toronto. She is currently studying early Canadian social work, specifically looking at contested discourses between radical left-leaning positionality and

conservative imperial locations in the construction of the social work profession.

KIDEN JONATHAN was born in Sudan. She lived in Kenya in a refugee camp before coming to Canada in 1999. She trained as a Registered Practical Nurse and has worked for 13 years in various healthcare settings. She became interested in story-writing when she joined The Shoe Project, and currently lives in Toronto.

TANIS MacDONALD is the author of *The Daughter's Way* (WLUP 2012), *Rue the Day* (Turnstone 2008), and *Fortune* (Turnstone 2003). She is the winner of the Bliss Carman Poetry Award and was a finalist for the Gabrielle Roy Prize in Canadian literary criticism in 2013. She is a widely-known poet, critic, literary reviewer, and personal essayist, as well as Associate Professor in the Department of English and Film Studies at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, Ontario.

JESSI MacEACHERN is a PhD candidate in English Studies at the Université de Montréal. In her research, she investigates the feminist ethics of modernist and contemporary women's poetics.

LEE MARACLE is an award-winning poet, novelist, storyteller and "knowledge keeper" of the Stó:lō Nation. Her critically acclaimed texts include *Sundogs*, *Daughters Are Forever*, *Ravensong*, *Celia's Song*, *Sojourner's Truth and Other Stories*, *First Wives Club: Coast Salish Style*, *Bent Box*, *Talking to the Diaspora*, *Will's Garden*, *Bobbi Lee: Indian Rebel* and *I Am*

Woman. She is currently an instructor and student mentor in the University of Toronto's Aboriginal Studies Program, as well as the Traditional Teacher for First Nations' House at Toronto's Centre for Indigenous Theater. Maracle's work has been recognized by many awards, including the JT Stewart Award, the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal, and the Premier's Award for Excellence in the Arts for Ontario.

EMILY MARASCO is a PhD candidate in electrical engineering. Her research focuses on creativity and cross-disciplinary curriculum development for engineering students as well as for K-12 and community outreach programs.

ROSINA MARTUCCI is in the final phase of her PhD studies in Italian Literature and Compared Literatures at the Università degli Studi di Salerno (University of Salerno), Campus of Fisciano, Fisciano, Italy.

NEIL McLAUGHLIN is a sociology professor at McMaster University. His research interests encompass sociology of intellectuals, knowledge and ideas as well as public intellectuals, Canadian sociology and reputation.

JACLYN MELOCHE is Interim Curator of Contemporary Art at the Art Gallery of Windsor. She is the editor of the forthcoming publication *What is our Role: Artists in Academia and the Post-Knowledge Economy* (YYZBOOKS, 2017) and author of the forthcoming book chapter "Camera Performed: Visualizing the Behaviours of Technology in Digital Performance" in *Spaces of Surveillance: States and*

Selves (London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2017). Meloche is also an artist who has earned reviews for her art in *The New York Times* and *The New Yorker*.

IGA MERGLER is an international PhD candidate at McMaster University working on understanding the gendered and racialized nature of the notion of public intellectual.

MÉLANIE MÉTHOT has been teaching Canadian History, Historiography and Methodology, as well as Women's Studies courses, at Augustana since 2001. She has published on Social Reformers of the turn of the 20th century, on bigamy in Canada and she is now embarking on a research project on the administration of justice in Alberta in the first part of the 20th century.

EMMA MORGAN-THORP is a West Coast settler feminist studying narrative and performance at York University. Her current work is focused on the power of women's counternarratives to subvert and rewrite dominant accounts of history and sovereignty in Canada.

MARYAM NABAVINEJAD came to Canada from Iran in 2003. She was a reporter and book reviewer for Iranian newspapers. Today, she produces radio podcasts for the Persian-speaking community. Residing in Toronto and Silicon Valley, Maryam is a charter member of The Shoe Project and active with the alumnae performing group, SPACE.

NORIKO OHSADA was born in Osaka, Japan and came to Canada at 22. She is a dedicated volunteer in multiple organizations, and works part time as a bookkeeper. She resides in Canmore and enjoys her free time with her family.

NATALIE PANEK is a rocket scientist and explorer. Extraordinary experiences have shaped her dreams of becoming an astronaut; whether learning to fly, driving a solar-powered car across North America, or building space robotics. With degrees in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, Natalie has contributed to a number of high profile space projects, including MDA's satellite servicing initiative and ESA's 2018 ExoMars rover program. Natalie was named one of Canada's Top 100 Most Powerful Women by the Women's Executive Network, a Forbes 30 under 30 2015, and one of *Flare Magazine's* inaugural 30 under 30 in 2015. The *Financial Post* has recognized Natalie as "a vocal advocate for women in technology." She is also a member of the prestigious Explorer's Club.

RUTH PANOFSKY is Professor of English at Ryerson University in Toronto, where she specializes in Canadian Literatures and Culture. Her work on Anna Porter is part of a larger SSHRC-funded project on women in twentieth-century English-language book publishing. Her most recent publications include *Cultural Mapping and the Digital Sphere: Place and Space* (2015), co-edited with Kathleen Kellett and *The Literary Legacy of the Macmillan Company of Canada: Making Books and Mapping Culture* (2012).

FRANCINE PELLETIER has worked as a journalist for over 30 years. Her career includes co-founding and acting as editor-in-chief of the women's monthly magazine (*La Vie en Rose*), as well as writing for Montreal's largest French daily, *La Presse*. She spent five years (1995-2000) as a reporter and co-host of CBC's flagship current affairs program, *the fifth estate*. Since the Spring of 2001, Francine Pelletier has begun a new career as an independent documentary filmmaker and screenwriter. Her writing and directing credits include: *Public Enemy Number One*, on former Premier Jacques Parizeau (2003), *Sex, Truth and Videotape*, a 6-part series on women and sex (2004), *Mordecai Richler: The Last of the Wild Jews* (2010), *Gordon Sheppard or The Art of Dying Well* (2011) and *Tango's Revenge* (2012). Francine Pelletier is also a weekly columnist with *Le Devoir*, Quebec's only independent daily.

MEREDITH QUARTERMAIN is the author of seven books of poetry and fiction, most recently *U Girl: a novel* and *I, Bartleby: short stories*, both from Talonbooks.

HELEN RAMIREZ teaches and writes in the field of Women and Gender Studies, but what she values is that her academic work is often slammed to a halt when she has someone who has none of the privilege she holds inside or outside the university dare to tell her what she has ignored or refused to adopt. They hold her accountable for the ways in which as an academic she can dismiss them as a legitimate source of knowledge. They remind her of her responsibility and force her to look into the claim that the

title of "activist" does not exempt her from the practices that do systemic harm. And that in itself is how her work is now on how "good intentional" activists inside institutions mirror the processes of the very system they critique.

NIKKI REIMER is a Calgary-based writer and community organizer who works in digital communications for higher education. Her first book of poetry, *[sic]* (Frontenac House, 2010), was short-listed for the Gerald Lampert Memorial Award.

WENDY ROBBINS is a co-founder of Gender and Women's Studies and professor of English at UNB (Fredericton). She guest-edited the pioneering "Women Writers of the Commonwealth" issue of *World Literature Written in English* in 1978, and in 1995 co-founded PAR-L, one of the world's first feminist discussion listservs. She has served on the executive of CAUT and CFHSS, and as a member of the Expert Panel on Women in University Research for the Council of Canadian Academies. She has recently completed a book offering a feminist critique of Canadian campus fiction and academic memoirs. She currently serves as policy chair of the National Women's Liberal Commission.

GENEVIÈVE ROBICHAUD is a PhD candidate in the Département de littératures et de langues du monde at the Université de Montréal. Her research is concerned with theoretical issues related to the concept of translation as a mode of touching, intersecting and conjoining several sometimes disparate threads together, notably in the prose and poetry of Erín Moure, Chus Pato, Gail Scott, Nathanaël,

and the performance collective PME-ART. She is the author of a recently published chapbook by Anstruther Press entitled *Exit Text*.

ASMA SAYED, PhD, is a scholar of Comparative Literature, Film Studies, and Gender Studies, whose interdisciplinary research focuses on Indian Ocean Studies, Indian Cinema, and representations of Islamicate cultures in literature and film. She teaches at MacEwan University.

MANISHA SHRESTHA was born in Nepal. She has a Masters degree in Geographic Information Science, and worked in international development organizations for a decade before coming to Canada in 2013. She lives in Canmore and works for a community development program.

LEIGH SPANNER is a PhD Candidate in the Department of Political Science at the University of Alberta. Her research investigates the relationship between contemporary Canadian military families and gender. More specifically, Spanner is interrogating the ways the military's reliance on the traditional family is being upheld and/or destabilized in various places, such as government policy and social media platforms.

NORA FOSTER STOVEL is Professor Emerita at the University of Alberta. She has published on Jane Austen, D.H. Lawrence, Margaret Drabble, Carol Shields, Margaret Laurence, and dance.

FIBBIE TATTI was born to the Sahtugotine First Nation on Great Bear River in the Northwest Territories, Canada, and she is a fluent speaker, writer and storyteller of the North Slavey Language. Tatti is a powerful advocate for Aboriginal languages and culture. For 23 years, Tatti worked with the Department of Education of the Government of the Northwest Territories, during which time she continued to work with the Elders. Based on her vision of Dene teachers as scribes for the Elders, Tatti undertook the tremendous task of bringing together Dene elders, teachers and language specialists to develop the first Dene languages curriculum. Tatti was also a one of the first Aboriginal people to work with the communication media in the NWT. She produced and hosted a half-hour news and community affairs radio program in the Aboriginal language for CBC North in 1973. She was also the host for the first CBC North TV current affairs program in 1980.

SUJATA THAPA comes from an indigenous community in Nepal. With two decades of experience working in international development and women's rights advocacy in South Asia, she came to Canada in 2013. Currently, she is pursuing a PhD in Urban Planning at University of Toronto.

KATJA THIEME teaches courses in research writing, discourse analysis, and literature at the University of British Columbia. Her research interests include genre theory, forms of public address in social and political movements, applied language analysis of research writing, as well as late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century Canadian literature and its role in political change.

MARIE VAUTIER teaches comparative English Canadian and French Québécois literature in the French and English departments of the University of Victoria, BC. She is the author of numerous books, book chapters and academic articles, which mainly deal with contemporary literature and cultural studies.

JANICE WILLIAMSON is a writer, teacher, scholar, and activist. Her studies and writing were inspired by the Women's Liberation Movement and the anti-racist, socialist, decolonial auto-critiques that emerged. A professor at the University of Alberta, she has published widely on social justice.

SHEENA WILSON is an associate professor at the University of Alberta, where she is also co-director of the Petrocultures Research Group, Director of the Bilingual Writing Centre, Editor of *Imaginations: Journal of Cross-Cultural Image Studies*. Her research interests involve an interdisciplinary approach to studying visual and textual representations of gendered and other forms of marginalization within the context of global oil cultures. Her scholarly monograph in progress is called *Feminist Energy Futures: Power Shift and Environmental Social Justice*.

ROB WINGER is an assistant professor at Trent University, where he teaches Canadian Literature and Creative Writing. He is the author of three books of poetry: *Mubyridge's Horse* (2007), which lost some of Canada's most prestigious literary awards, *The Chimney Stone* (2010), and, most recently, *Old Hat* (2014).

CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS

ARITHA van HERK is Professor of English at the University of Calgary in Calgary, Alberta, Canada, as well as a novelist, critic and writer. She is the author of five novels as well as six works of criticism and non-fiction, place-writing, *geografictione* and cultural commentary. Her irreverent but relevant history of Alberta, *Mavericks: An Incurable History of Alberta*, frames the permanent exhibition on Alberta history at the Glenbow Museum. She has published hundreds of reviews and articles on contemporary literature and history, Canadian literature, and material culture and has given readings, lectures, and workshops on literature and domestic disquiet, culture and community, nationally and internationally.

CHRISTL VERDUYN is Professor of English and Canadian Studies at Mount Allison University, where she holds the Davidson Chair in Canadian Studies and is Director of the Centre for Canadian Studies. Her teaching and research interests include Canadian and Québécois literatures, women's writing and criticism, multiculturalism and minority writing, life writing and Canadian studies, and she is the author, editor, or co-editor of over a dozen volumes in these areas, most recently *Critical Collaborations: Indigeneity, Diaspora, and Ecology in Canadian Literary Studies*

(with S. Kamboureli, 2014). She was co-organizer with Aritha van Herk of the 2014 conference *Discourse and Dynamics: Canadian Women as Public Intellectuals*.

JANE CHAMBERLIN (conference coordinator) is a PhD candidate at the University of Calgary English Department. Her creative dissertation explores issues around humanitarian communications, the ethics of empathy, and the Syrian refugee crisis.