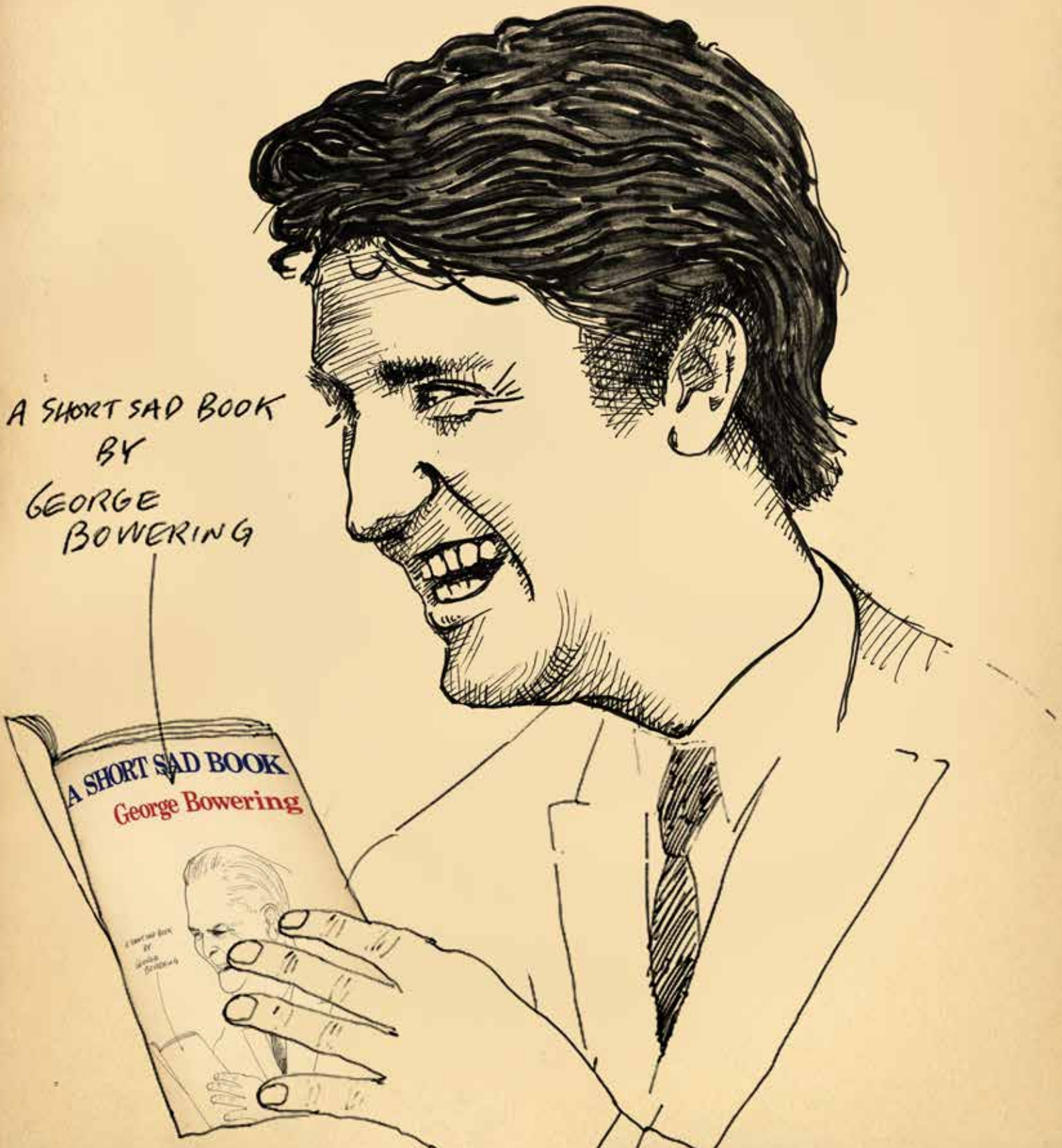


NEW STAR BOOKS

Spring 2017



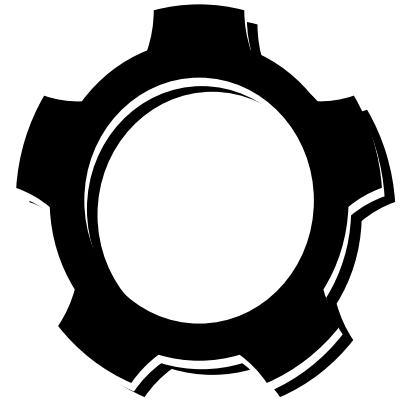
A SHORT SAD BOOK
BY
GEORGE
BOWERING

A SHORT SAD BOOK
George Bowering

A SHORT SAD BOOK
BY
George Bowering

New Star Books Spring 2017

New Titles + Recent Highlights + Complete Backlist



New Titles

- 1 **A Short Sad Book** *by* George Bowering
- 2 **Maria Mahoi of the Islands** *by* Jean Barman
- 3 **Culture Gap and Beyond: Real Life in a New World** *by* Judith Plant
- 4 **if wants to be the same as is: The Essential Poems of David Bromige** *by* David Bromige (Jack Krick, Bob Perelman, Ron Silliman, eds.)
- 5 **A perimeter** *by* rob mclennan
- 6 **The Sacred Herb / The Devil's Weed** *by* Andrew Struthers

Recent Fiction

- 6 **Piranesi's Figures** *by* Hannah Calder
- 6 **Dance Moves of the Near Future** *by* Tim Conley

Recent Non-fiction

- 7 **The News We Deserve: The Transformation of Canada's Media Landscape** *by* Marc Edge
- 7 **A Series of Dogs** *by* John Armstrong
- 7 **Soviet Princeton** *by* Jon Bartlett and Rika Ruebsaat
- 7 **Around the World on Minimum Wage** *by* Andrew Struthers
- 8 **Greatly Exaggerated** *by* Marc Edge
- 8 **Whose Culture Is It, Anyway?** *by* W.F. Garrett-Petts, James Hoffman and Ginny Ratsoy, eds.
- 8 **Svend Robinson: A Life in Politics** *by* Graeme Truelove
- 8 **Mac-Pap** *by* Ronald Liversedge and David Yorke, ed.
- 9 **Rebel Life** *by* Mark Leier
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Recent Poetry

- 9 **Clean Sails** *by* Gustave Morin
- 9 **Twenty Seven Stings** *by* Julie Emerson and Roxanna Bikadoroff, illus.
- 9 **The World, I Guess** *by* George Bowering
- 10 **Loitersack** *by* Donato Mancini
- 10 **North of California St.** *by* George Stanley
- 10 **Posh Lust** *by* Louis Cabri
- 10 **Parkway** *by* Peter Culley
- 11 **Rua da Felicidade** *by* Ken Norris
- 11 **sybil unrest** *by* Larissa Lai and Rita Wong
- 11 **After Desire** *by* George Stanley
- 11 **Indigena Awry** *by* Annharte

George Bowering

A Short Sad Book

Introduction by Erín Moure

Afterword by George Bowering

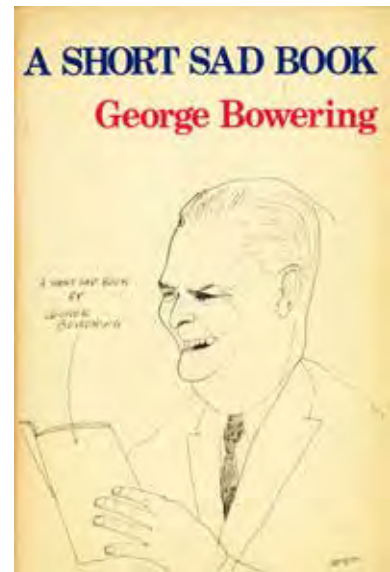
These days, Canada is a heavyweight of world fiction, boasting some of the gaudiest names in the literary firmament, its schools graduating great writers by the frontlist. It's easy to forget that it was not always so.

Forty years ago, **George Bowering** saw a country still struggling to find itself in its books, and decided to write *A Short Sad Book* about it. Did he know he was writing if not The Great Canadian Novel something like it?

Originally published in 1977, *A Short Sad Book* has plenty of what you'd expect any Great Canadian Novel to have plenty of: geography, love, loons crying in the wilderness, lots of beavers. There's a romance between Sir John A. and Evangeline, a Purdy good detective named Al hot on the trail of whoever killed Tom Thompson (yes, that one), terror in the form of white rabbits from the Black Mountain, Riel, Dumont, postmodernism (there's even a character named "George Bowering"!!), and cameos by Gertrude Stein as the muse, Frank Mahovlich as the travel agent, and Jack McClelland as himself.

Poet/translator **Erín Moure** provides an introduction for this new edition, peeling back just enough layers of Bowering's short but incredibly rich novel to show even more layers underneath. Bowering's own Afterword provides additional context. A teachable moment in Canadian literature if ever there was one.

George Bowering is a two-time Governor General's Award winner and the author of at least one hundred books, most recently *The Dad Dialogues* (with Charles Demers, 2016), *The Hockey Scribbler* (2016), *Attack of the Toga Gang* (2015), *Ten Women* (2015), *Writing the Okanagan* (2015), and *The World, I Guess* (2015).



Original 1977 cover

PUBLICATION DATE

MARCH 23, 2017

SPECS

Trade ppb, 224 pages, 5.5" x 8.5"

PRICE

\$19 CAD • \$17 USD

ISBN

978-1-55420-129-7



Jean Barman

Maria Mahoi of the Islands

[Revised second edition]



Since its original publication in 2004, *Maria Mahoi of the Islands* has become a classic in its field, and an important document on the history of Indigenous Hawaiians known as Kanakas, who had an early presence across the Pacific Northwest and are now part of the broader Hawaiian diaspora across North America.

Born in the mid-1850s on Vancouver Island to an Indigenous Hawaiian father and an Indigenous British Columbian mother, Maria (pronounced Ma-RYE-ah) moved as a young woman to Salt Spring Island in British Columbia's Strait of Georgia, and in mid-life to her very own nearby Russell Island. Now part of the Gulf Islands National Park Reserve, the island and Maria's home, overseen by descendants, are open to visitors. A true pioneer, Maria lived until 1936 and bore thirteen children, but also kept her father's surname and fiercely protected her interests, including a legal action to acquire Russell Island in her own name. Maria Mahoi's many descendants encouraged and facilitated the telling of her story in its original and now revised edition.

Drawing on information that has come to light since the book's first publication—and sometimes as a result of it—Jean Barman has updated and expanded her account, and written a new Foreword talking about the life that the book has taken on.

Maria Mahoi of the Islands was originally published as number 13 in the Transmontanus series.

The author of numerous articles and books, including *The West Beyond the West: A History of British Columbia*, **Jean Barman** has a MA in Russian Studies (Harvard), MLS (Berkeley), EdD in History of Education (UBC) and is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. She lives in Vancouver.

SERIES

Transmontanus No. 13

PUBLICATION DATE

APRIL 27, 2017

SPECS

Trade ppb, 128 pages, 6.75" x 9.75"

PRICE

\$19 CAD • \$17 USD

ISBN

978-1-55420-132-7



Judith Plant

Culture Gap And Beyond

Real Life in a New World



The time is the early 1980s. Judith Plant and her new partner, Kip, are ready for a change. Inspired by the charismatic Fred Brown, their communications professor at Simon Fraser University, they join a commune in a remote valley near the Yalakom River, deep in BC's Coast Mountains.

Culture Gap and Beyond: Real Life in a New World tells the story of that sojourn. The challenges and privations, the joys and adventures of rural communal living, form the backdrop to the human drama the author recounts. Judith and Kip's family includes her children; Willie takes to the new life, but his sisters feel the strong pull of the life they left behind. Meanwhile Fred, the inspiration for the commune, stricken with cancer, is dying.

An absorbing account of a lifestyle emblematic of a time, *Culture Gap and Beyond* also shows, from her own older perspective, a young mother's struggles to reconcile her social ideals of personal and environmental responsibility, and loving and caring for those closest to her.

Judith Plant, together with her late partner Kip, is longtime publisher of New Society Publishers of Gabriola, BC. She co-edited the collections *Healing the Wounds: The Promise of Ecofeminism*, and *Home! A Bioregional Reader*.

SERIES

Transmontanus No. 22

PUBLICATION DATE

May 25, 2017

SPECS

Trade pbp, 128 pages, 6.75" x 9.75"

PRICE

\$19 CAD • \$17 USD

ISBN

978-1-55420-133-4



David Bromige

if wants to be the same as is

Edited by Jack Krick, Bob Perelman, and
Ron Silliman

Introduction by George Bowering

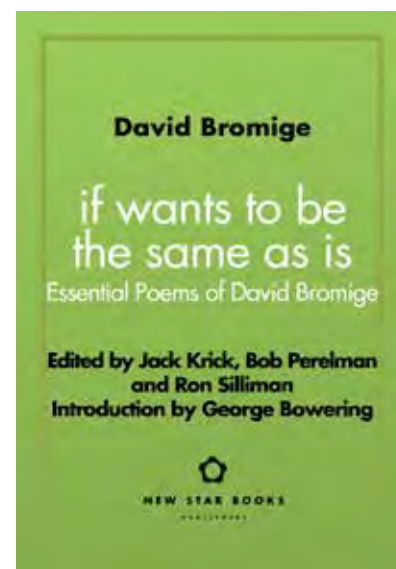
Drawn from 22 books of poetry published by David Bromige in his lifetime, *if wants to be the same as is* chronicles the career of one of contemporary poetry's most distinctive writers.

Born in London, England, in 1933, raised in Canada, and a resident for most of his adult life of California, David Bromige is just as difficult to pin down in terms of his aesthetics. As a student at the University of BC in the early 1960s, Bromige met writers like Fred Wah, George Bowering, and Jamie Reid, who pointed him towards the American postmodernists, and eventually, to a scholarship to UC–Berkeley. There, he became immersed in the Bay Area's explosively creative poetry scene, and came to be associated with many of the L=A=N=G=U=A=G=E poets.

Bromige's own work, however, holds wide appeal and from the start resisted any sort of classification, winning praise across the literary-critical spectrum. His publishers included Black Sparrow Press (Bukowski's publisher), Sun & Moon, Brick, and The Figures, and he won acclaim from the likes of Robert Hass, the Poetry Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Arts. He died in Sebastopol, California, in 2009.

if wants to be the same as is presents a life's work that is, in the words of Bob Perelman, "beautiful, deeply amusing, continually surprising."

David Bromige taught at Sonoma State University for over twenty years, published thirty books of poetry, and was twice honoured by both the Poetry Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts. He died in 2009.



PUBLICATION DATE

JUNE 29 2017

SPECS

Trade ppb, 640 pages, 6.75" x 9.75"

PRICE

\$45 CAD • \$35 USD

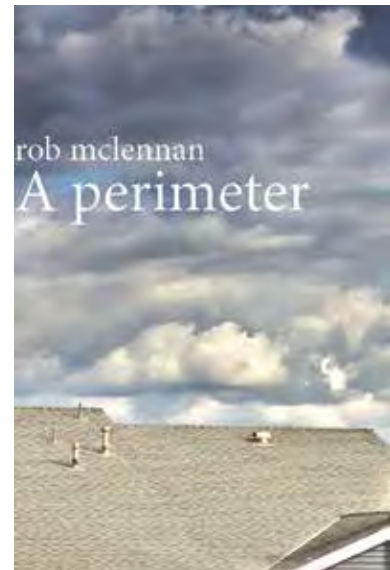
ISBN

978-1-55420-134-1



rob mclennan

A perimeter



A new child, a new house, a new neighbourhood: rob mclennan takes the measure of his environment in *A Perimeter*, a collection of shorter and longer pieces from 2010 to 2014.

“In fatherhood, mclennan has found a perfect subject for his signature rhythmic gifts: their pause and heft, their sweeping forward and pulling back. Listen to *A perimeter* and you will hear a moment expand, a year collapse. This is a book about focus, but also about the blur of sleep deprivation. As with so much about parenting, it is equal parts gratitude and bewilderment. Could it be any other way?”

—Marcus McCann

“Metaphors abound. rob mclennan’s poems are shards, piercing & cutting through the dross of the world; or rob mclennan’s poems are neutron stars, dense & compactified & replete with signification(s) within their deceptively small visual fields, reshaping & reworking semantic space; or rob mclennan’s poems are the aesthetic logarithms of the human heart & human experience, the powers, the ratios, the functions of the experiential. Or (& I can’t stress this enough) all of the above.”

—Gil McElroy

rob mclennan is the author of over thirty books of poetry, fiction, and non-fiction, most recently *The Uncertainty Principle: Stories* (2014) and the poetry collection *If suppose we are a fragment* (2014). In 2016 mclennan was inducted into the VERSe Ottawa Hall of Honour. He lives in Ottawa with Christine McNair and their two small girls.

PUBLICATION DATE

NOVEMBER 17, 2016

SPECS

Trade paperback, 80 pages, 5.5" x 8.5"

PRICE

\$18 CAD • \$16 USD

ISBN

978-1-55420-128-0



Andrew
Struthers

The Sacred Herb / The Devil's Weed



NEW PUBLICATION DATE
APRIL 20, 2017

SPECS
Double-sided trade paperback
160 pages, 5.5" x 8.5"

PRICE
\$19 CAD • \$18 USD

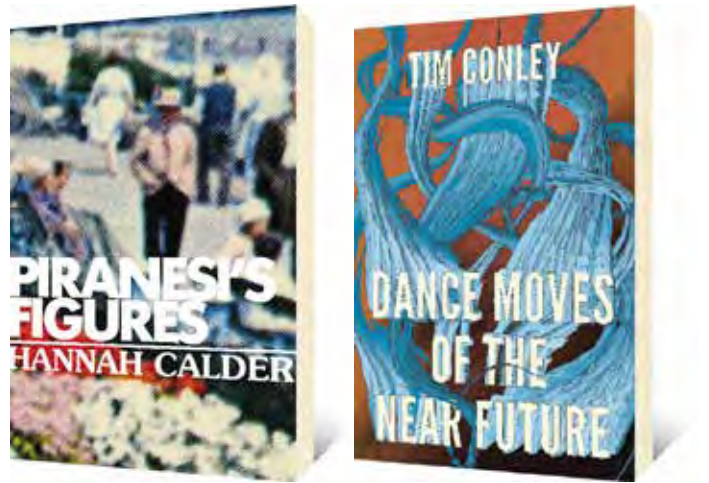
ISBN
978-1-55420-115-0

The Sacred Herb / The Devil's Weed is informative and even enlightening, but above all, it's a hilarious look at a humble plant that has entertained, inspired, and occasionally terrified so many for so long.

Andrew Struthers directs his "brilliant madness" towards the ambivalent nature of marijuana, once the target of "reefer madness" hysteria and now available for quasi-legal purchase at dispensaries on every other block (at least in some jurisdictions).

One side of this double paperback celebrates the glorious highs of pot, from the friendships it helps forge to the creative output it enhances. The other grapples with the dark side of pot: the embellished claims of its proponents, the lives its overuse has ruined, and the dangers of a product so strong it bears little resemblance to your parents' pot.

With Canada poised to join several U.S. states in finally re-legalizing marijuana, *The Sacred Herb / The Devil's Weed* is your liferaft in the coming sativa tsunami.



Piranesi's Figures

Hannah Calder

Reading Calder is to move through the world barefoot over asphalt, grass, sand and water. This is sensual, insightful writing.

— Michael Turner, author of *8 X 10*
and *The Pornographer's Poem*

Piranesi's Figures is a romp through the magnificent psychological ruins of at least two marriages and one attempt at child-rearing, and a gleefully reckless contortion of novelistic conventions, sexual practices, and family dynamics.

As in her first novel, *More House*, Hannah Calder peers into hidden corners and under creaking beds with such relentless abandon that even her own characters bristle at her advances. The result is a dense witches-brew of storytelling, a feminist-tinged fairytale.

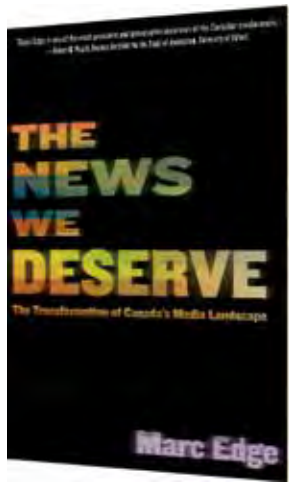
SPECS ppb, 234 pp, 5.5" x 8.5"
PRICE \$21 CAD • \$19 USD
ISBN 978-1-55420-112-9
PUBLISHED 2016

Dance Moves of the Near Future

Tim Conley

A wild ride through the absurd, the surreal and the speculative . . . What is Conley doing that's so effective? It's part storytelling prowess, part hitting the sweet spot between realism and the weird (and the weird is almost always played straight), part dedication to the aesthetic as overriding function . . . The overall effect of these 24 experiments isn't an idea but a feeling: an unsettling, a strangely pleasant unease. —*Globe & Mail*

SPECS ppb, 160 pp, 6" x 9"
PRICE \$18 CAD • \$16 USD
ISBN 978-1-55420-097-9
PUBLISHED 2014



The News We Deserve

The Transformation of Canada's Media Landscape

Marc Edge

Marc Edge is one of the most prescient and provocative observers of the Canadian media scene. *The News We Deserve* is a compelling book showing how money, policy, and education have aligned to give Canadians poorer journalism than they deserve. Anyone concerned about the role journalism plays in Canadian politics, culture, and society will find his critique deeply unsettling.

—Robert G. Picard, Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, University of Oxford

SPECS ppb, 224 pp, 6" x 9"
PRICE \$24 CAD • \$24 USD
ISBN 978-1-55420-121-1
PHOTOGRAPHS 12 B&W
PUBLISHED Fall 2016



A Series of Dogs

John Armstrong

John Armstrong uses his wry wit and vivid prose to evoke a life immeasurably enriched by one best friend after another. He tells boyhood tales of romping along the railroad tracks with Spooky the mutt, touching accounts of Sluggo the Rottweiler befriending sex workers, howl-inducing memories of laying a treasured friend to rest during a rain- and beer-soaked night, and many more stories both moving and hilarious.

SPECS ppb, 192 pp, 5.5" x 8.5"
PRICE \$21 CAD • \$19 USD
ISBN 978-1-55420-118-1
PUBLISHED Fall 2016



Soviet Princeton

Slim Evans and the 1932–33 Miners' Strike

Jon Bartlett & Rika Ruebsaat

BC Book Prizes finalist
BCHF Historical Writing Awards finalist

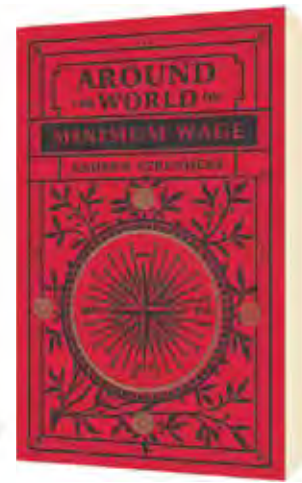
A fascinating chapter in labour organizing history in Canada.

—*Literary Review of Canada*

A carefully documented and well-textured chronicle of a class' dangerous struggle for livable wages set against a landscape of political and social unrest. —*Penticton Western News*

Required reading for the Canadian leftist who is curious as to what exactly was going on west of the Rockies during the worst of the Depression. —*Socialist.ca*

SPECS ppb, 136 pp, 6" x 9"
PRICE \$19 CAD • \$18 USD
ISBN 978-1-55420-109-9
PHOTOGRAPHS 12 B&W
PUBLISHED 2015



Around the World on Minimum Wage

Andrew Struthers

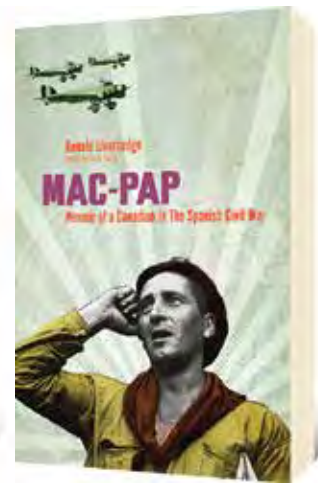
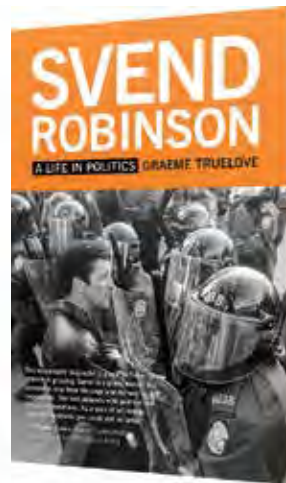
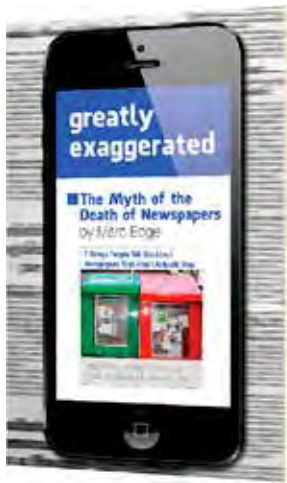
To understand this culture, we need writers with a genuine sense of humour, such as Struthers.

—Phillip Marchand, *National Post*

Something of a hybrid spawned of *Gulliver's Travels*, William Kotwinkle's classic *The Fan Man*, and *National Lampoon* magazine . . . I was hooked on his manic stream of the sublime, the sublimely ridiculous and much that lies strewn somewhere between the two—especially the delightful graphics. —*BC Studies*

Imagine T.E. Lawrence's *Seven Pillars of Wisdom* performed as a Bob and Doug McKenzie sketch, and you're halfway there. —*subTerrain*

SPECS ppb, 304 pp, 5.5" x 8.5"
PRICE \$24 CAD • \$21 USD
ISBN 978-1-55420-086-3
ILLUSTRATIONS numerous, by the author
PUBLISHED 2014



Greatly Exaggerated

The Myth of the Death of Newspapers

Marc Edge

Soundly researched . . . delivers the analytics lacking in many reports about the 'death' of printed news.

—*Newspaper Research Journal*

A provocative thesis that Edge backs up with reams of data . . . And he accomplishes this with a breezy, readable style.

—*Georgia Straight*

Demonstrates ample awareness and critique of the dangers to good journalism of excessive profit orientation.

—*Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly*

SPECS trade paperback, 320 pages, 6" x 9"

PRICE \$21 CAD • \$21 USD

ISBN 978-1-55420-102-0

PUBLISHED 2014

Whose Culture Is It, Anyway?

Community Engagement in Small Cities

**W.F. Garrett-Petts
James Hoffman
Ginny Ratsoy (eds.)**

Addresses important questions about the contribution of arts and culture in small and medium sized cities and the ethos and ethics of supporting cultural development in these environments. —*BC Studies*

Includes contributions by Bruce Baugh, bill bissett, Ila Crawford, Nancy Duxbury, Alexander Forbes, Kathleen Irwin, Terry Kading & Christopher Walmsley, Caffyn Kelley, Ernie Kroeger, Lucy Lippard, Adelheid Mers, Judith Miller, Bernard Momer, Maureen F. Rogers & Barry P. Brockley, Si Transken, and Savannah Walling.

SPECS trade paperback, 320 pages, 6.75" x 9.75"

PRICE \$35 CAD • \$35 USD

ISBN 978-1-55420-087-0

PHOTOGRAPHS 35 B&W

PUBLISHED 2014

Svend Robinson

A Life in Politics

Graeme Truelove

BC Book Prizes finalist

Informative, interesting and sometimes very moving. A terrific biography of an amazing man. —*Rabble.ca*

Readers will learn a great deal about Robinson, his motivations, his colleagues and friends, and gain multiple valuable insights into the internal workings of the political system during one of the most tumultuous eras in Canadian, British Columbian, and NDP history.

—*BC Studies*

SPECS trade paperback, 352 pages, 6" x 9"

PRICE \$24 CAD • \$24 USD

ISBN 978-1-55420-072-6

PHOTOGRAPHS 32 B&W

PUBLISHED 2013

Mac-Pap

Memoir of a Canadian in the Spanish Civil War

**Ronald Liversedge
David Yorke (ed.)**

In recognizing Liversedge and his compatriots, we recognize the centrality of the subjects associated with the Great Depression to the emergence of a vibrant social history on the Left Coast and elsewhere.

—*BC Studies*

A fascinating and much needed contribution to the slowly growing number of books on Canada's role in the Spanish Civil War —*The Volunteer*

Ronald Liversedge's (author of *Recollections of the On-to-Ottawa Trek*) memoir of his two years at the front is richly illustrated and annotated by labour historian David Yorke.

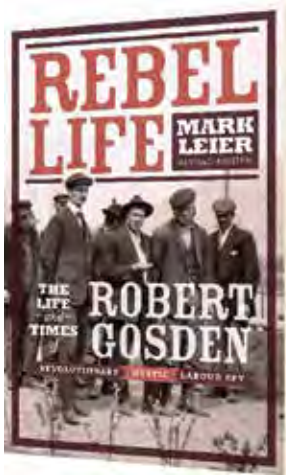
SPECS trade paperback, 224 pages, 5.5" x 8.5"

PRICE \$19 CAD • \$19 USD

ISBN 978-1-55420-071-9

PHOTOGRAPHS 19 B&W

PUBLISHED 2013



Rebel Life (2nd ed. rev.)

The Life and Times of Robert Gosden, Revolutionary, Mystic, Labour Spy

Mark Leier

More than a biography: a rich examination of a radical era that students of labour history will benefit from . . . [Leier] has shared the details of [Gosden's] life with the imagination of a mystery writer and the documentary knowledge of one of our most seasoned labour historians. —*BC Studies*

Rebel Life plumbs the enigma that was Gosden, but it is much more: an introduction to BC labour history; a trove of rarely seen archival photographs, and sidebars rich with historical arcana; and, with its chapter describing the research that unearthed Gosden's story, a rich resource for instructors, students, and trade unionists alike.

SPECS trade paperback, 192 pages, 6" x 9"
PRICE \$21 CAD • \$21 USD
ISBN 978-1-55420-058-0
PHOTOGRAPHS 20 B&W
PUBLISHED 2013



Clean Sails

Gustave Morin

Alcuin Book Design Awards, honourable mention

Stunningly complex, hypnotic visual poems composed manually on modified typewriters . . . A major entry into Canada's corpus of typewriter poetry, a strange, stunning book where every page impresses with its meticulous patterning.

—*Winnipeg Free Press*

An epic of oddball sights, a saga of unstable figures, and a colossus of concrete poems made from an arsenal of typewriters with names like Tooth Courier, Hector Wheat-Gomez, and Cy Machina. —*subTerrain*

SPECS ppb, 164 pp, 6.5" x 8.75"
PRICE \$24 CAD • \$21 USD
ISBN 978-1-55420-108-2
PUBLISHED 2015



Twenty Seven Stings

Julie Emerson

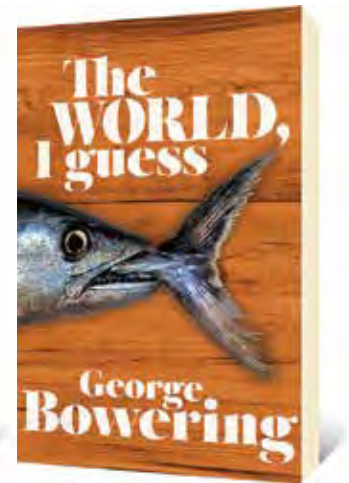
Illustrated by
Roxanna Bikadoroff

Carefully crafted, lapidary poems . . . illustrated with powerful drawings . . . Deft and austere, evoking the gaudy horrors of war and what it does to women . . . The voices that drive and inform her poems are strong and fierce, and women are agents as well as objects.

—*Vancouver Sun*

Twenty Seven Stings is a suite of seventeen poems inspired by roles of women in wars, and the cultural histories and military strategies that have led us into wars throughout history, from sixth-century BCE China to Alexander the Great to contemporary American drone warfare.

SPECS ppb, 72 pages, 6" x 9"
PRICE \$18 CAD • \$16 USD
ISBN 978-1-55420-107-5
PUBLISHED 2015



The World, I Guess

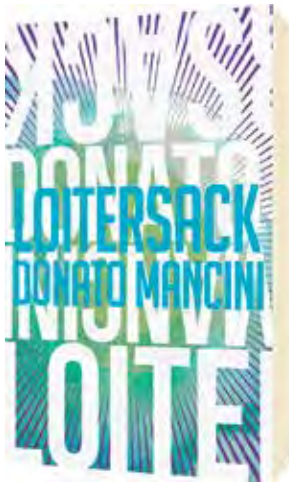
George Bowering

Bowering's candour is beguiling. He gives you a good time with his writing, you feel comfortable, even chummy, in his presence; he's playful, but then he nails you with some hard truths. —*Vancouver Sun*

The World, I Guess is a substantial book that commands a broad poetic range, a catholic span of interests, and echoes of a lifetime of reading and learning from Pound, Williams, Stanley, and others.

The centrepiece is "The Flood," a long, complex, discursive poem whose subject is poesis and whose interest is in the world around the writer. But the book ends with a suite of translations of the "modern" Canadian poetry canon, from Charles G.D. Roberts and Archibald Lampman to Irving Layton and Phyllis Webb.

SPECS trade paperback, 160 pages, 6" x 9"
PRICE \$18 CAD • \$16 USD
ISBN 978-1-55420-096-2
PUBLISHED 2015



Loitersack

Donato Mancini

Packed full of quotations, analyses, and deconstructions of and about poetry, and yet it never gets old . . . the effect is just as perplexing and just as thrilling as sitting down with the work of a well-loved scholar. The best part of *Loitersack* is that Donato Mancini makes it fun. The book is simultaneously a theatrical play, a grocery list, a deconstruction of laughter (you have to read it to understand), and uniquely poetic. At times it is almost nonsensical, but charming all the same.

—*Contemporary Verse 2*

SPECS trade paperback, 128 pages, 6" x 9"
PRICE \$21 CAD • \$19 USD
ISBN 978-1-55420-085-6
PUBLISHED 2014



North of California St.

Selected Poems 1975–1999

George Stanley

Introduction by Sharon Thesen

A rich selection of [Stanley's] much earlier work, some of it dating back 40 years, with an incisive introduction . . . His poems are often like slide shows, kaleidoscopic and discontinuous . . . at times he rises to great beauty. —*Vancouver Sun*

North of California St. will be most useful to newcomers to Stanley's work, readers who may have missed the publication of the four out-of-print books from which this collection is drawn. Thesen's introduction helps place this selection of poetry in the context of Stanley's larger career, as "a retrospective reading" of Stanley's first few Canadian decades. —*Malahat Review*

SPECS trade paperback, 192 pages, 6" x 9"
PRICE \$21 CAD • \$21 USD
ISBN 978-1-55420-082-5
PUBLISHED 2014



Posh Lust

Louis Cabri

Smart, sometimes silly, and always biting, Cabri's poems are poetic products par excellence . . . *Posh Lust* resembles a compost heap of poetic language. Cabri's primary target is neo-liberal capitalism, which is happy to destroy the world for you as long as you fill out its satisfaction survey: "Most Satisfying Rubble: / (a) chunks (b) dust." —*Winnipeg Free Press*

People study poetry and some read it. Poetry is a pinnacle art — as in "a small ornamental turret" — even when it's a drunk imaginary communist, or just a drunk imaginary. Kitsch makes the serious art of poetry bearable, so that poetry may become a situation where one is entertained by many an aspirational boner or becument in the literary field.

SPECS trade paperback, 96 pages, 6" x 9"
PRICE \$18 CAD • \$18 USD
ISBN 978-1-55420-083-2
PUBLISHED 2014



Parkway

(Hammertown, Part 3)

Peter Culley

Culley's poetry is remarkable for its suspension of rhetorical elegance, together with all the stubborn rawness of the refusal to stop seeing. The inconsistencies and ravelled edges resulting from this charged refusal are themselves the troubled condition of "being," which is but one refraction among many in natural history.

—Lisa Robertson, *Lemonhound*

Parkway is suffused with impulses of loyalty, generosity, and discovery, all of which can be found in moments of laughter, nostalgia, or learning. —*subTerrain*

SPECS trade paperback, 96 pages, 6" x 9"
PRICE \$18 CAD • \$18 USD
ISBN 978-1-55420-076-4
PUBLISHED 2013



Rua da Felicidade

Ken Norris

A lonesome travelogue that explores loss, place, and poetic form . . . His awareness is what makes this collection shine. *Rua Da Felicidade* is a formal and thematic battle against (and growing understanding of) a postmodern world . . . We hear the voices of the many, as opposed to just the one. And all of them are shouting out for creation. —*Contemporary Verse 2*

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A BRIEF HISTORY

In 1969, a group of writers and editors published the first of several literary supplements inserted into the weekly *Straight*. The Georgia Straight Writing Supplement featured work by writers such as *Straight* editor/publisher Dan MacLeod, Stan Persky, Milton Acorn, Gerry Gilbert, Jack Spicer, George Stanley, Robin Blaser, Maria Hindmarch, Jim Herndon, Dennis Wheeler, and Colin Stuart.

Soon the GSWS began publishing books, including works by Bill Bissett, Judith Copithorne, Fred Wah, Brian Fawcett, George Bowering, and Daphne Marlatt. Within another year, many of the GSWS writers left the *Straight* to

continue under a new imprint, Vancouver Community Press, based at "the York St. commune."

By 1974, the press began to emphasize non-fiction titles about current affairs and politics. One of these books, *Two Roads* by Jack Scott, a largely positive account of the People's Republic of China (Scott was one of the first westerners to visit, and write an account of, the China of Mao Zedong and the Cultural Revolution) inspired another name change, to New Star Books.

By 1978, the York Street commune was no more, and Lanny Beckman, who had joined the press in 1974, became publisher, a position he held until

1990, when Rolf Maurer assumed the role. This last change coincided with a return to the press's literary roots: while New Star continues to publish books about politics and social issues, it also resumed publishing poetry, as well as prose fiction and non-fiction. As well, books on local history and culture became an important component of New Star's list.

In 1998, New Star moved across town to its current location, at 18th and Commercial Street in East Vancouver. Today, New Star Books publishes four to ten new titles per year.

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